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VOLUME LXV, NUMBER 19711

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**Ease your children back to school**

Family Matters, Page 9



**Channel 2's new look**

Arts & Entertainment, Page 18



**New Gardener's Corner**

At Home, Page 10



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## PM denies he's angry at Frenkel

By JAY BUSHINSKY and news agencies

TOKYO - Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday avoided confronting Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel, following the latter's decision Monday to raise interest rates by a higher-than-expected 0.7 percent.

"I am not angry at the governor," said Netanyahu in Tokyo. "I am waiting to see what the decision will be next month. It's not something you can judge based on one incident."

Frenkel said yesterday that he has the full backing of Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman.

"Labor relations between myself and the finance minister are very close. Moreover, we have long since had a common understanding as regards the economy."

"The minister of finance has repeatedly emphasized that he recognizes the supreme importance of the central bank's independence, and promised that he will act to preserve that independence. I rely on him in this matter," he told *Globes* yesterday.

"The government's job is to set targets. If it wishes to set new targets, that happens in every democratic regime."

"The government must ensure that the Bank of Israel has the tools to achieve the targets," Frenkel said.

Full report, Page 11



Palestinian schoolgirls, overcome by tear gas, hold their noses and cry as they leave Bethlehem Elementary School for Girls yesterday, after the IDF fired tear gas canisters at demonstrators near Rachel's Tomb and gas drifted into the school. (AP)

## IDF: PA behind Bethlehem demos

By ARIEN O'SULLIVAN

IDF soldiers firing rubber bullets reportedly wounded seven Arabs, including a Palestinian policeman who tried to open fire at Israelis, during protests at Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem yesterday.

IDF commanders in Bethlehem accused the Palestinian Authority of failing to act against the stone-throwers. Lt.-Col. Eitan, a deputy brigade commander, accused the PA of encouraging youths to riot.

"We are trying to calm the situation and are speaking with people in the PA in order to prevent violence, but we don't have any other choice except to use riot gear to disperse demonstrators," Eitan told reporters.

At first the soldiers fired tear gas to try to quell the demonstrations. Some of the gas wafted into the nearby Bethlehem Elementary School for Girls, and about a dozen Palestinian girls were treated at Beit Jallah Hospital, hospital officials said.

The army said the protesters hurled stones and bottles from the school, which is adjacent to Rachel's Tomb.

The IDF Spokesman later apologized for hurting "innocent residents" but accused Palestinians of starting the demonstration.

Later, soldiers resorted to firing

rubber bullets, and a Palestinian policeman was struck in the hand as fellow officers tried to prevent him from shooting at Israeli troops, Army Radio reported.

Eitan confirmed that the Palestinian officer was shot, saying: "The IDF is aware that a Palestinian policeman was hit. He wasn't hurt intentionally but because he was standing among demonstrators."

In all, seven Palestinians were wounded by rubber bullets fired by Israelis, Army Radio said. Other media reported only five wounded.

It was the fourth day of Palestinian demonstrations against the extended blockade of Bethlehem, the only PA-controlled city still under the internal closure imposed after the July 30 Mahaneh Yehuda suicide bombings.

In some cases yesterday, Palestinian Police were seen aiming rifles at IDF troops, but no live bullets were fired by either side.

"We know that the situation in Bethlehem could escalate and come to a situation where live bullets are fired, like last September," Eitan said.

Violence continued into last night when a number of firebombs were thrown at Israeli troops in Bethlehem and Halhoul, causing no injuries or damage, the IDF Spokesman said.

Eitan said that the closure on the Bethlehem area remained strictly for security reasons. Israel reportedly believes that the two masterminds of the Mahaneh Yehuda bombing are hiding in Bethlehem.

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak yesterday told parliamentary reporters he thought a violent flare-up in the West Bank or Gaza Strip was possible, but not in the coming days.

"I don't think there will be an explosion in the coming days. I think everyone is waiting for the arrival of the [US] Secretary of State [Madeleine Albright]. But there is no doubt that there is tension and a build-up of pressures and anger which could lead to an explosion," Shahak said, after a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said the continued closure would inevitably lead to starvation among Palestinians.

Shahak refused to comment on an unattributed report in *Yedioth Aharonot* that President Clinton's advisers suggested the US wait to step in until friction between Israel and the Palestinians escalates into violent confrontations. According to the report, the advisers believe this is the only way both sides would be ready for compromise.

See IDF, Page 2

## PM: Japan ready to sponsor joint water project

By JAY BUSHINSKY

TOKYO - The Japanese are not against having their funding and expertise harnessed for an Israeli-Jordanian water desalination project, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said yesterday, after two days of intensive talks with Japan's political and economic leaders.

"They raised the subject," Netanyahu pointed out, referring to his talks with Japan's defense and trade ministers, as well as to his initial conversation with his Japanese counterpart, Ryutaro Hashimoto.

"The government of Japan is prepared to allocate funds and know-how to this end. They asked for a detailed proposal. Had they not wanted to go ahead, they would have said it was difficult or dangerous," said the prime minister. He added that in all his meetings he had stressed that existing and future agreements between Israel, the Palestinians and the neighboring Arab states "could be torpedoed" by disputes over water.

He contended that "no single

state" can build seawater conversion and sewerage purification plants by itself. But once the Israeli-Jordanian project gets underway, he went on, Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinians might join its subsequent stages.

"Japan is interested in being the driving force," he said.

The prime minister was much less optimistic about chances that Israel's military technology might penetrate the Japanese market, and conceded that the US has the inside track there.

But he was upbeat about the Japanese authorities' decision to open an office of the Japan External Trade Organization in Tel Aviv in October. He said the opening will be followed by the arrival of business delegations seeking opportunities for joint research and development.

"This is the first step in a basic change in Japan's approach to the Middle East," Netanyahu said. He contended that the Japanese realize the Arabs' virtual monopoly over oil no longer exists, and that Israel's \$100 billion economy is likely to overtake that of Saudi Arabia and all the other Arab states.

## Blood test developed for 'Ashkenazi' colon cancer

By JUDY SEGEL

An American Jewish researcher has developed a blood test for a type of colon cancer common in Ashkenazi Jews, after finding the defective gene responsible for the disease.

News seeped out yesterday of what is being hailed as a major breakthrough in genetic research by Dr. Bert Vogelstein of Johns Hopkins University's Howard Hughes Medical Institute in Baltimore. The results are to be published in the September 1 issue of *Nature Genetics*.

Experts expect the blood tests to be available here soon.

In a telephone interview from Baltimore, Vogelstein told *The Jerusalem Post* he felt "privileged to make this contribution, which should benefit many people and save lives."

The genetic defect, present in one out of every 17 healthy Ashkenazi Jews, is believed the most common cancer-related mutation ever identified in an eth-

nic group. It is identifiable in one in eight Ashkenazim suffering from colon cancer, and in one in six Ashkenazi colon cancer patients who develop the disease before age 66, Vogelstein said.

According to Vogelstein, this is the first relatively common, preventable illness that has been linked to a genetic mutation. Anyone carrying the gene has a 20% to 30% lifetime risk of contracting colon cancer, he said.

Vogelstein happened on the discovery when a friend of colleagues suffering from pre-cancerous colon polyps asked for genetic screening. Since none was available for his illness, he asked to be tested for a mutation that causes another, more rare colon cancer.

"I thought it would be a waste of time, but he insisted that I do it as a favor. I didn't find the mutation for the rare cancer, but I did identify an alteration of the cancer-controlling gene," recalled Vogelstein.

See CANCER, Page 2

## Zionist Congress centennial celebration begins

BASEL, Switzerland - Ceremonies to mark the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Congress opened here yesterday with pressure on Switzerland to accelerate its efforts to right World War II wrongs.

Avraham Burg, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency, served notice that Jewish groups will not rest until Swiss banks repay all the money that belonged to Holocaust victims.

"Whatever belongs to us and our people should come back to our people," Burg said. "If we have one franc there or zillions, we are indifferent. We just want justice."

But Burg - who used to be one of Switzerland's fiercest critics - also went out of his way to praise the Swiss for action already taken, including a multi-million dollar compensation fund for Holocaust victims.

"I love and admire all the people who took the responsibility to help your nation do what it's doing now," he said.

Around 1,700 delegates began gathering in Basel yesterday. Hundreds of soldiers and police cordoned off the conference center to deter terrorist violence or antisemitic demonstrations. Sharpshooters took

up positions on nearby rooftops. Military patrol boats that were transported from Lake Constance cruised the Rhine River near the posh Three Kings hotel, while the Swiss air force scanned the city's closed airspace.

Thirty five Israeli high-schoolers will participate in the Congress. Fifteen are members of the Zionist Youth Council, and 20 are the "Zapkids," winners of the yearlong "Zap to Basel" contest sponsored jointly by Channel 1's *Zap Lerishon* program and the Education Authority of the Jewish Agency.

The winning high schools were Hadara Science and Arts, Ort Habonim in Bat Yam, Eylon in Holon and Katzir in Rehovot, which produced video clips that included

"Theodor Herzl" coming back to present-day Israel, and one that decided "Zionism is in the heart."

Despite the ultra-tight security, officials are hoping the ceremonies will encourage a fresh look at Swiss ties with Jews - ties that have been strained by allegations that Swiss banks hoarded the wealth of Holocaust victims.

"In addition to marking an event of global importance, the jubilee events also contribute to understanding among Israelis and Palestinians," Basel city council president Ueli Vischer told reporters on Monday. "Even if there is no direct connection, the council hopes it will also have a positive impact on discussion about Holocaust funds."

(News agencies)

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NEWS

in brief

N. Korean ambassador, trade official defect

North Korea's Ambassador to Egypt Chuig Song Gil has defected and been granted asylum in the United States...

Two killed, one injured in road accident

Two people were killed and another seriously injured yesterday evening in a collision between a van and a tow truck...

Meshulam follower released on bail

Eran Gabai, accused by police of vandalizing 10 traffic lights in the Dan Region, was released on bail yesterday...

Strike, demonstrations in Majdal Shams

Residents of the Druze village of Majdal Shams on the Golan Heights staged a general strike and demonstrations yesterday...

Netanya murder suspect remanded

Felix Abutbul, suspected of several Netanya murders, arson, harassment and obstructing a police investigation...

Sharon to visit Jordan

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon will soon be going on an official visit to Jordan. This was agreed upon yesterday...

IDF

Continued from Page 1

The Prime Minister's Office also refused comment. Israeli, Palestinian, and US security officials discussed security cooperation Sunday night...

With profound sorrow we mourn the passing of our dear father and grandfather EDUARD (Edi) FRANKEL

With great sorrow we announce the sudden and untimely passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother JOSEPH (Joe) HOFFMAN

Syria promises peace if Israel pulls out of Lebanon and Golan

By DAVID RUDGE

Syria yesterday called on Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to withdraw from south Lebanon and the Golan Heights, promising peace with security in return.

south Lebanon and the Golan Heights. If Netanyahu tried to implement such a move, the only opposition would be from the warmongers in his own government...

Shahak: Hizbullah increasing attacks in southern Lebanon

By LIAT COLLINS

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak told the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Hizbullah is trying to increase its attacks on the IDF and the South Lebanese Army...



PFLP member Imad Sabi's wife Reem and two-year-old daughter Dinah hold a family portrait.

Japan-Israel: A marriage made in economic heaven

By MIKE JACOBS

TOKYO — Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu told a packed Foreign Correspondent's Club of Japan luncheon yesterday that the future of the Israel's survival was the same as in its ancient past...

IDF agrees to detainee's release for study abroad

By JON INMANUEL

The IDF yesterday agreed to release an administrative detainee on condition he went abroad to study. The case of Imad Sabi, 35, arrested 20 months ago...

Israel releases PA colonel

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Israel yesterday released a Palestinian police commander suspected of planning attacks on Jewish settlers in Samaria. Col. Munir Abushih told The Jerusalem Post he was interrogated...

CANCER

Continued from Page 1

He searched his database for similar mutations. "I found one with the same tiny alteration; looking at their names, I quickly identified both as Jews of Ashkenazi origin, just as I am," Vogelstein said.

genes to multiply. The defective genes couldn't manufacture a protein required to keep normal colon cells from multiplying wildly, and they became cancerous.

On the very tragic and sad loss of our dear life-long friends SORELLE and ERIC

The Ohel Avraham "Parliament" at Mitzpeh Masuah Restaurant

# Higher rate of diabetes in South

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry and health authorities in the Beersheba area were shocked to learn from a recent epidemiological survey that the rate of adult-onset diabetes in the South is twice to three times what it is in the country as a whole.

In addition, the number of foot and leg amputations due to diabetic infections is twice as high in the Beersheba area as in the rest of the country.

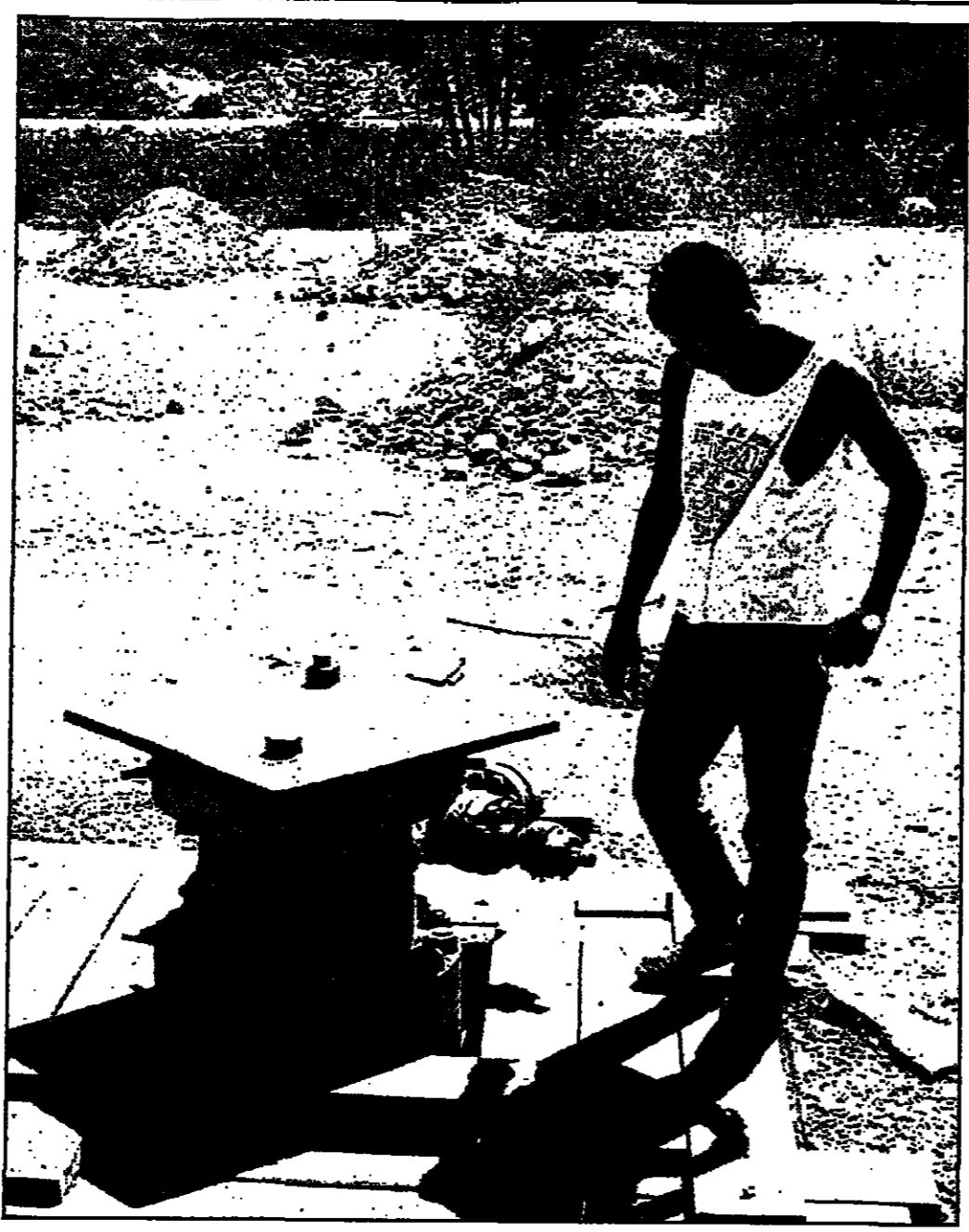
Health Minister Yehoshua Matza, who was alerted to the problem this month, has decided to support the establishment in Beersheba of a walk-in, interdisciplinary diabetes center, where all patients may undergo monitoring and treatment.

The district health profile of Beersheba — the first of its kind — was written by Prof. Ted Tulchinsky and Dr. Gary Ginsberg, both of the ministry. It will be followed by similar regional epidemiological studies in Ramle and Acre.

Tulchinsky said that not enough is known about why southern residents are at such high risk for Type II diabetes, but among the hypotheses are difficult access to medical care, low awareness of diabetes complications, the area's relatively large numbers of Sephardi (and especially Moroccan-origin) Jews, who have a predisposition to the disease, and the influx of untested immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

The ministry, the health funds, Ben-Gurion University and Soroka Hospital are currently holding meetings on the establishment of the diabetes center, and looking for sources of funding.

The full story of diabetes in the south will be presented on Sunday's Health Page.



### Well-oiled

This well-head near Rosh Ha'ayin may be sitting above one billion barrels of recoverable oil. Geologists for Givat Olam Exploration say the surrounding 400 square kilometers may also contain a trillion cubic meters of natural gas. (Reuters)

# School year closer to beginning on time

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The chances that the school year will begin on time improved yesterday when school district directors were informed by Education Minister Director-General Benzion Dell that pupils would enjoy the same number of hours they had before cuts made during the past school year.

However, Secondary School Teachers Association spokeswoman Rivka Kanarek said last night that "not one of the principals we spoke to received any such directive," although she said she had heard of an internal order sent to district heads.

"We have not seen any written document," she said, "and for us, this is nothing different than the promises we got yesterday in the Knesset from Benzion Dell. On a personal level, we believe him, but

we want to see these things implemented, and we want to see the tenured teachers who were fired get their jobs back before we agree to call off our strike threat."

According to a ministry spokesman, the instructions regarding the hours are included in a new directive prepared by Yitzhak Cohen, head of the ministry's Pedagogic Administration, which was sent to the ministries' district offices throughout the country.

According to the ministry, the new directive replaces a previous one which was sent out during the course of the year, announcing the cut of two hours per class per week.

The directive also stated that the 1997/98 school year would be the first stage in the implementation of the long school day in all the nation's schools. The district heads were asked to prepare a plan for the long school day's implementation

in their districts. School principals and teachers will be responsible for implementing these plans in areas where the long school day will be introduced this year.

A ministry spokesman said that this year, the school day will be lengthened in poorer neighborhoods and in confrontation line towns with populations of less than 10,000. Pupils in these areas will go to school for 41 hours a week.

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer praised the new arrangement, and said that in implementing it, all barriers to the opening of the school year on time had been removed. Hammer said efforts should be made to erase the bad feelings that emerged during the struggle over the long school day, so that they do not overshadow the happiness involved in the return of some 1.5 million pupils to school.

## Matza blasts irregular PA funding to health services

By JUDY SIEGEL and news agencies

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza last night issued a stinging attack on the Palestinian Authority for serious irregularities discovered in the PA's health institutions, after the PA comptroller found that not all the funds meant for health services were actually reaching these institutions.

"While Israel is falsely accused by the PA of refusing to give Palestinians medical treatment in Israel, the PA itself is guilty of serious irregularities. When money meant for health and saving lives disappears, this is much more serious than some ordinary error," Matza said. "The disappearance of these funds joins the PA's failure to transfer money to Israeli hospitals that treat Palestinians. I fear this will force us to reach serious conclusions in this matter — although we will always be careful to separate politics from the need to protect public health."

The Health Ministry also vehemently denied a claim that Israel is testing drugs on Palestinian prisoners, calling the claim "utter nonsense."

Yasser Abed Rabbo, the Palestinian minister of information, said the Health Ministry has issued 1,000 licenses to pharmaceutical companies "to test dangerous drugs on Palestinian and other Arab prisoners."

He made the claim in a July 24 letter to his counterpart in the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, which was released to the press yesterday.

"The story is utter nonsense," ministry spokesman Yair Anuzim said. "Not only do we not conduct experiments on Palestinian prisoners, we do not conduct experiments on prisoners at all."

## Zvilli revives Peres-for-president plan

By SARAH HONG

Labor's former secretary-general Nissim Zvilli yesterday tabled another proposal to elect ex-party leader Shimon Peres to the custom-made office of party president. The proposal is to be deliberated at Labor's convention in September.

Peres dissociated himself from Zvilli's move, but many in the party believe he was involved in reviving the idea.

Zvilli first proposed his idea before the election of Ehud Barak as party chairman three months ago. At the time, Barak vehemently opposed the move, pronouncing it an attempt by Peres to cement his hold on the party. The party convention last April sided with Barak, and a humiliated Peres announced that he would not seek the office again.

Yesterday, Peres issued a formal statement reiterating his refusal to accept the heretofore non-existent post. He said he was not interested in it, and will not stand in September.

Zvilli maintained last night that he alone was behind the new proposal, but Labor pundits note that Peres met with Zvilli for a lengthy tete-a-tete yesterday, immediately prior to Zvilli's announcement that he was again tabling his proposal.

This has led many Labor insiders to suspect that while Peres was going on the record as declining the nomination, he was in effect endorsing, if not actually initiating the move.

## HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Writing in *Ma'ariv* Efraim Sidon tells the legend of the yeshiva student who magically split in two, so that each part of himself lived in a different yeshiva — only to unite again at night, with his own home.

Thus he got paid twice, for when Jewish community leaders went to the Pariz to ask for funds, they got money for both halves of the same student, who practiced the rule: "be a Jew at home, and two Jews in the yeshiva."

In Jerusalem, Sidon says, referring to the alleged haredi yeshiva fraud exposed by Channel One earlier this week, this miracle happened not just once but to thousands of yeshiva students.

The allegations against several haredi bodies accused of receiving funds from the Jerusalem municipality and education ministry for students registered in more than one yeshiva, does not surprise Yosef Lapid of *Ma'ariv*.

Lapid writes that the real robbery of hundreds of millions of shekels of tax payers' money is committed not by fraud, but by legal allocations made to haredi institutions. He says this is because some yeshivas teach students to evade military service, not to work and to eschew the state's values.

"The great robbery of state funds takes place on the basis of coalition agreements, with the knowledge of both left and right wing leaders. No wonder haredi circles regard the secular public that finances them as 'a stupid goy,'" Lapid says.

Weizman's role *Ha'aretz* columnist Yoel Marcus praises President Ezer Weizman for his courage to say "what he wants whenever he wants, whether Bibi likes it or not. Granted, he was not elected to run state affairs, but nowhere does it say that he must act like a plastic doll."

Marcus writes that Weizman may be impulsive and outspoken but that he exhibits extraordinary intuition about saying the right thing at the right time. Amid a string of bombing attacks a year and a half ago, Weizman incensed Peres when he called for a "time out" to rethink the peace process. Had Peres listened to him rather than treat the bomb casualties as "peace victims" perhaps he would not have lost the elections, muses Marcus.

Now, when Weizman says the situation is on the verge of an explosion and warns of war, it annoys Bibi no end. But it doesn't mean he is not right, Marcus says.

Marcus concedes what Weizman is doing isn't exactly proper. But it's also not proper for a civil servant to attack the president, or for ministers to attack the High Court.

Also improper was the way that Roni Bar-On was appointed attorney-general, the way the government gives in to religious demands and many aspects of the cabinet's decision-making process. "Of all the improper things in government, I wouldn't start with fixing on the impropriety of the president's freedom of speech," Marcus writes.

Bibi and his people are furious. The government has no real resistance. Labo's opposition isn't felt, and the Knesset has turned into a rubber stamp. The vacuum created in the political arena has sucked in Weizman, who with his big mouth alone fulfills the role of the opposition.

"True, it's not proper, but it is also not proper to lead the state to the verge of war," Marcus concludes.

Law and Justice   
 The Israeli justice system sent out two clear messages this week, writes Ran Kiselev of *Ha'aretz*, who criticizes the double standard used in treating Arabs who hurt Jews and vice versa.

The first message was in the case of soldier Noam Friedman who was charged by a military tribunal of shooting and wounding five Palestinians in Hebron. Anyone convicted of these charges could be sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment or more.

But although Friedman pleaded guilty to the charges, the court decided to freeze proceedings against him, finding him "insane

and not responsible for his acts during the shooting."

Instead of prison, he was sent to an open mental hospital with plenty of home leave and freedom to attend daily studies in a yeshiva, Kiselev writes.

The second message came from the Jerusalem District Court, which sent three border policemen charged with beating two Arabs to home custody.

Both messages say: our legal system is a model of compassion and understanding for hoodlums who abuse those weaker than they, even if they shoot or wound them. On condition, of course, that the victims are Palestinians.

Whoever heard of a Palestinian being sent by our court to a mental home for shooting at Jews? Or of an Arab sent to home arrest after attacking a Jew?, Kiselev asks.

A terrorist is a terrorist, and a hoodlum is a hoodlum, regardless of his national affiliation and who he hurts, he writes.

*Ma'ariv's* Rafi Mann argues the importance of enforcing the law, whether against homeless squatters in Mevasseret Zion or the pirate right-wing radio station Arutz 7.

Some 50 fragments of medieval manuscripts are now at the Israel Museum. Sounds dull? Well, they form one of the most exciting and moving exhibitions I have ever seen.

Meir Ronnen  
The Jerusalem Post

## THE CAIRO GENIZA SEMINAR



In 1896 at the Ben Ezra Synagogue in the Fustat area of old Cairo, Prof. Solomon Schechter of Cambridge University revealed to the world the staggering contents of its Geniza. 140,000 fragments were given to the Cambridge University for study. In the whole history of Judaic studies there has never been a more dramatic event than the discovery of these ancient documents. Poetry, prayers, accounts of journeys, files, tens of thousands of handwritten documents, some signed by the Rambam himself, and much more.

A hundred years have passed and still not all the material has been

studied. Now a selection on loan from Cambridge is on view in Jerusalem. It presents a vivid picture of the spiritual — and not so spiritual — mores and business dealings of a medieval Jewish community.

Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post Travel Club invite you to a weekend seminar with the experts, Prof. Stefan Reif, Head of the Cairo Archive, Cambridge University, and Prof. Mordechai Akiva Friedman, Jewish Culture in Moslem Lands and Cairo Geniza Studies, Tel Aviv University.

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### Ministry of Immigrant Absorption

Submission of Requests for an Allocation from 1997 Legacies   
 Further to the notice of the Public Committee on Utilizing Bequests to the State:

Public institutions (as defined in Principles of the Budget Law 1985) are invited to submit requests to the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, for an allocation from funds derived from bequests.

For 1997/8, the Ministry has decided on the following priorities: employment, education and educational enrichment, culture and tradition, welfare, science, art, sports and women, and special sections of the population.

Institutions that make requests should detail their activities, connected with immigrant absorption. Requests, which should be submitted by September 30, 1997, should be sent only to the Coordinator of the Jerusalem Committee, only by registered mail or personal delivery, to 2 Rehov Kaplan, Government Compound, Jerusalem (Tel. 02-675-2772).

A complete copy of the request should also be submitted to the Public Committee on Utilizing Bequests to the State (17 Rehov Kaplan, Tel Aviv 64734).

Requests arriving at the Ministry after the above date will not be considered.

Institutions that wish to obtain copies of the request forms and further particulars should apply to the Coordinators of the Committee — at the Head Office of the Ministry, and at district offices, and bureau heads of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption.

Requests must be submitted, in accordance with the established rules, as promulgated in Yalkut Hapirusumim No. 3182 of February 21, 1985, in Yalkut Hapirusumim No. 3800 of September 19, 1990, and in Yalkut Hapirusumim No. 3986 of March 26, 1992, and so as to suit the procedures of the Committee, as published in Yalkut Hapirusumim No. 4335 of September 21, 1995, and the amendments to the rules, as published in Yalkut Hapirusumim No. 4392 of March 17, 1996.

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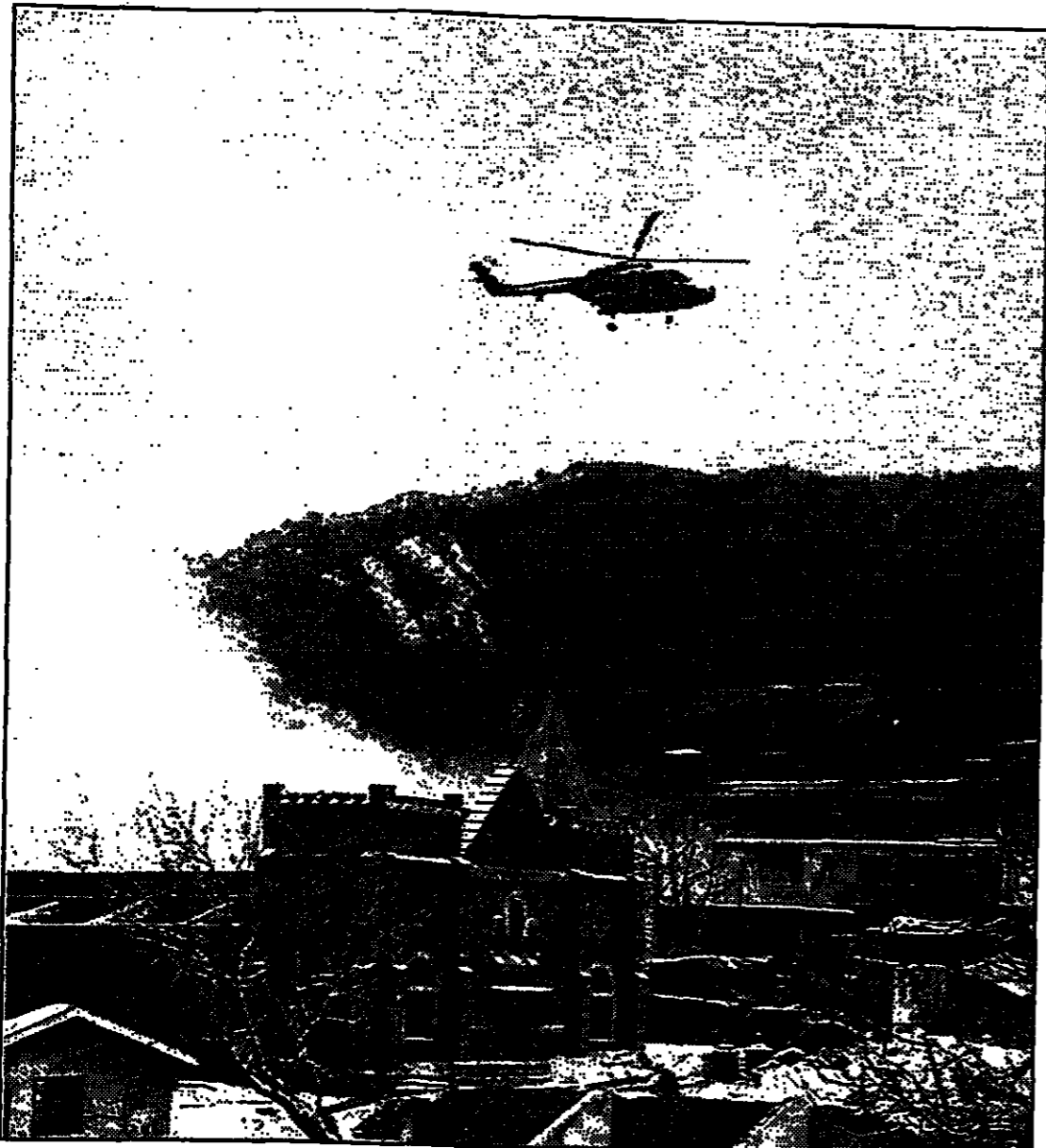
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NO TELEPHONE SUBMISSIONS







A Lynx helicopter from the British Royal Navy's HMS Liverpool surveys the volcanic damage over Plymouth, Montserrat.

# Coping with calamity

### Struck suddenly by a volcano which had been dormant for centuries, inhabitants of the Caribbean island of Montserrat ponder a very uncertain future

By SERGE F. KOVALESKI

PLYMOUTH, Montserrat - In Montserrat's epic battle between man and nature, nature - in the form of the Soufriere Hills volcano - is triumphing, threatening the viability of this onetime paradise in the eastern Caribbean.

Nearly two years of violent eruptions have ravaged large swaths of the island with fast-moving rivers of superheated gas, rocks, ash and boulders the size of boats, destroying hundreds of homes and burying villages. Plymouth, the capital of this British dependency, today looks like a post-apocalyptic ruin. The country's economy has effectively been annihilated, as has the farming sector. Just when this tiny island was becoming self-sufficient in producing many key crops.

Since the volcano awoke in July 1995 after centuries of dormancy, more than half of Montserrat's 12,000 residents have fled to other Caribbean islands, Britain and the United States, while others have been placed in shelters, some of which are in deplorable condition. Two thousand people have abandoned the island in the last eight weeks alone, following several more devastating eruptions. One of those events, on July 25, claimed at least 19 lives - the volcano's first and, so far as is known, only victims - and forced the closing of Montserrat's airport.

Over the weekend, the British government began a voluntary evacuation program, ferrying residents by boat to Antigua, about 50 km. northeast of here. Officials said that as many as 600 people have registered to be evacuated and receive financial assistance for relocation, a process that will be carried out over the next few weeks with the support of Britain's Royal Navy.

Observers and government officials here expressed concern about the growing flight from the island, saying it does not bode well for the future of Montserrat, which needs between 2,000 and 3,000 residents to remain here to be a viable, functioning place to live. Large numbers of businesses and banks have already been forced to close because of the dearth of customers.

At the same time, most neighboring islands, wrestling with high unemployment and other problems of their own, have made it clear that while they are sympathetic toward the evacuees they do not want to take them in permanently. Many people in Montserrat, however, have relatives in Britain, which has relaxed residency restrictions for the refugees.

The volcano crisis has been accompanied by spasms of social

unrest and political instability here. Residents have staged sporadic demonstrations, complaining that their living conditions continue to worsen unabated, that the British have not reacted swiftly enough in helping the island and that the Montserrat government has fallen short in securing more generous resettlement packages from London. Amid the groundswell of discontent, Montserrat's highest-ranking local official, chief minister Bertrand Osborne, resigned last Thursday.

"I feel like we are slowly being wiped off the face of the earth," said Jean Beckett, 39, who has been living in a government-operated shelter near Salem with her husband since their home was obliterated by lava a month ago.

"I don't know how in God's name we can rebuild from this. Our capital is gone, livelihoods are gone, no one seems to be doing much about it, and the only sounds you hear that mean anything are the rumblings of that horrible volcano."

In the meantime, scientists here said that the most likely scenario for Soufriere Hills is that its activity not only will continue at current levels but may increase over the long run, belching greater amounts of the combination of superheated gas, ash and rock known as pyroclastic flow.

There is consensus among all the senior scientists involved that this crisis has now entered a stage for which there is little precedent in other well-documented eruptions, and that there is an urgent need to consider the future outlook and hazard implications in light of the escalating pattern of activity," the Montserrat Volcano Observatory said in a draft report prepared for the Montserrat government. A copy of the report was obtained by *The Washington Post*.

"The prospect of larger explosive eruptions over the coming weeks and months is significantly increased and the areas with substantial populations in the center of the island are now at much higher risk than before," it concluded.

Government officials said that an estimated two-thirds of the 100-sq.-km. island, including Salem, the provisional capital, has been designated as an "unsafe zone" and that the safe portion of Montserrat, where governmental, commercial and personal activity is now centered, has been reduced to about 33 square kilometers.

While most of the devastation from Soufriere Hills has been concentrated in the southern and western sections of the island, the encroaching threat of the volcano has forced an increasing number of people and institutions to flock to safe havens in the north.

British officials said that overcrowding in the northern part of the island was part of the reason for planning the voluntary evacuation.

At the evacuation center in Brades on Saturday, where refugees were being processed before boarding a ferry to Antigua, Cynthia Peters expressed misgivings about leaving her husband and their evacuated home behind while she headed for London, but said that the havoc wreaked by the volcano had worn her out.

"I'm tired of running. I'm fed up with sleeping with friends or in a car," she said. "I was in Kinsale and had to run. Then I was in Salem and had to run again. I am just exhausted. So why not leave?"

But her husband, William Peters, 60, who like other die-hards has decided to weather the turmoil created by the volcano, offered a different perspective: "I am a responsible citizen and I have interests here. I just can't pick up and go."

"For one thing, I don't think I can get a job anywhere else. I have to remain here and fight. I fight the government and the volcano," said Peters, who owns a small baking business.

To survey the hardest-hit parts of the island is to witness devastation of surreal proportions. In Plymouth, what used to be the capital's vibrant streets today are vast stretches of gray ash piled two meters high in some parts. Buildings and homes have been reduced to burned-out shells, some crushed by immense boulders. A phone booth in the center of town lay buried in the ash almost to its top. The smell of intense heat and fire still wafts through the air, and the only sign of life during a recent visit there was a stray dog.

The island's one hospital, recently constructed to replace the one leveled by Hurricane Hugo seven years ago, was destroyed; its staff now operates out of a school in a nearby town. The main seaport, in Plymouth, has been shut down, but an emergency jetty has been built in Little Bay in the north so that boats can rescue people in case of a full-scale evacuation. Elsewhere on the island, the airport has been closed and there are no operating hotels.

An estimated 1,100 people have been placed in shelters, some of them in buildings that are not completed and in substandard condition. "They dumped us here like we are animals," said Dorothy Gordon, who is staying at a shelter at the Briggs Primary School with her 15-month-old baby and 12-year-old son. "The cooking areas are not complete, so people can't eat full meals, and neither are some of the bathrooms."

Montserrat government spokesman Herman Sargeant said that the British government plans to start building emergency housing in the north, and the Caribbean Community and Common Market intergovernmental organization has committed to constructing a village there for people displaced by the volcano crisis. Other infrastructure projects, however, have been frozen by the British for fear that a cataclysmic eruption could occur, Sargeant said.

In the meantime, Montserrat is seeking financial assistance from the European Union.

Recently, tensions have developed between the Montserrat government and the British over the amount of the resettlement packages being offered by London. Sargeant said that among the assistance the island asked England to provide is the equivalent of \$14,800 to heads of households, \$11,100 to spouses and \$7,400 for children over an 18-month period, plus airfare.

For people moving to other Caribbean countries, however, the British are offering \$3,840 for each adult and \$960 for individuals under age 18 over a six-month period, as well as airfare; a package for those going to Britain offered less cash but substantial social-service guarantees.

(Washington Post)

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Friday, August 27, 1997  
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# An image problem called Stalinism *The beast is back*

Even in the face of millions of starving children, many nations and people have problems donating relief funds to North Korea

By MIKE CLARY

By KEVIN SULLIVAN

SEOUL, South Korea — The young mother sat on a North Korean riverbank with her infant son. She looked listless and sickly, hot and weak. Then she leaned over and vomited violently. When the convulsions stopped, she sat up and cradled her baby in her arms before lying down on the rocky ground. Her baby sat over her motionless body, waiting and trying to rouse her.



Monuments to arch-autocrat Kim II Sung still cast dark shadows over North Korea as it seeks inroads to the West. (AP)

This glimpse of life inside staunchly isolationist North Korea greeted millions of South Koreans when they turned on their television sets this summer. The mother's collapse was the opening sequence in an hour-long documentary on network television, a nearly non-stop montage showing North Koreans weakened or dying from hunger.

ple. A lot of countries remember sending goods up there and not getting paid. Then the North Koreans sell drugs to keep their embassies abroad afloat, they blow up airliners and they talk like jackasses. The incentive to give is reduced." The historical animosities are hard to erase. A Korean War veteran sent an e-mail to The Washington Post's Tokyo bureau recently complaining that if the US sent even one grain of rice to North Korea, "it would be done on the graves of 57,000 Americans who died in the Korean War." Others say feeding North Korea has the long-term effect of extending the life of one of the world's most repressive and brutal regimes. That, they argue, will ultimately lead to more human suffering than the famine will cause.

hungry people who are suffering through no fault of their own," said Catherine Bertini, executive director of the World Food Program. But many people still can't bring themselves to offer large-scale aid, partly because of nagging suspicions that food destined for starving children ends up feeding a soldier whose artillery piece is pointed at Seoul. Members of a bipartisan US congressional delegation that visited North Korea this month said they had been denied access to areas affected by two years of flooding and this summer's severe drought. The delegation's leader, Rep. Porter J. Goss (R-Florida), said the US would be unlikely to provide significant new food aid unless North Korea made its distribution "fully transparent and verifiable."

Rep. Jane Harman (D-California) said the group believed much of the food aid going to North Korea actually reaches hungry people. Harman said the delegation had no proof that food was being diverted to the military, but she said North Korea's secretive system makes it easy for that to happen. No such diversion of food has ever been proven. "We believe our system works, and we have had no allegations of diversions," said Bertini, who has numerous World Food Program monitors inside North Korea to oversee food distribution. Bill Richardson, US ambassador to the United Nations, said in an interview in Tokyo a week ago that there was no doubting the need for food in North Korea. "We do think the (food) situation is getting worse... It is well documented." But North Korea is suffering from its own ineptitude at public relations. It refuses to allow aid groups or journalists to visit the worst-hit areas. Its appeals for outside help have been unprecedented, but a half-century of preaching self-reliance seems to have made North Korea unable to admit the full extent of its problems. As a result, television, with its unmatched power to move people, has broadcast almost no footage of starving North Korean

children. "In Somalia or Rwanda, people saw these pathetic pictures on TV and right away they sat down and wrote a check for \$25," an aid worker said. "That alleviated their guilt and made them feel like they were doing something. We got millions of dollars that way. But it isn't happening in North Korea." North Korea also continues to use aid as political leverage, consistently demanding massive food aid from the US in return for its participation in peace talks with American, South Korean and Chinese diplomats. US officials refuse to link aid to the peace talks, and many see North Korea's dogged insistence on doing so as little more than blackmail. Pyongyang's biggest image problem is its continuing bad behavior.

Last September, as aid groups were trying to persuade the world to help starving North Koreans, Pyongyang sent a submarine full of commandos into South Korean waters. The sub grounded, and dozens of the people on both sides were killed before the incident was over. North Korea sells missiles to Iran, and Pyongyang has been linked to trafficking in heroin and opium and counterfeiting US \$100 bills. Still, more international aid donors, moved by credible and dire reports of starvation, are starting to ignore North Korea's unattractive government and trying to feed its people. Japan said last week that it was considering donating \$10m. In aid, despite its concern over recent reports that North Korea kidnapped several young Japanese people in the 1970s and may still be holding them in Pyongyang. Despite the misgivings of some skeptics in Washington, the US has contributed slightly more than \$60m. The last two years, in increasingly large portions — by far the largest share of the \$212m in aid that the World Food Program says has been donated to North Korea since 1995. The food agency calls the amount raised so far "a drop in the ocean" compared with what is needed. (The Washington Post)

MIAMI — Tooth, tough and terrifying, the crocodile is one of Earth's dogged survivors, and one of mankind's worst nightmares. "They are right up there with sharks, snakes and spiders, one of the few species that commands almost a reflexive fear," said biologist Frank Mazzotti. "On seeing a crocodile, most people think, 'This animal wants to eat me.'"



In Florida, home of the only crocodile native to the United States, that fear helped push the 200 million-year-old reptile to the brink of extinction, even though the American crocodile is not much of a threat to humans. The croc's hide was coveted for fashionable shoes and handbags, its coastal habitat was perfect for beachfront development and many were killed just for sport. As recently as 1978, three years after being declared an endangered species, estimates of the US population of the American crocodile fell to 200, and a US Park Service report estimated that fewer than 20 females had nested the previous spring. Now the beast is back. Although the American crocodile remains the rarest reptile in North America, "Today we have more crocodiles in more places in Florida than we did 20 years ago," said Mazzotti, a University of Florida professor, who puts the current number of adults at between 400 and 500.

with the common American alligator, an animal that sometimes can be seen in a public park or grinning cartoonishly as a university mascot. Although alligators and crocodiles are cousins, they are very different animals, scientists point out. Alligators are blackish in color, have rounded snouts and thrive in freshwater lakes, canals and streams throughout Florida and into the Deep South. There are an estimated 1 million alligators in Florida alone, and they are known to be much more aggressive than the American crocodile. Veteran biologist George Dalrymple theorized that the croc's narrow snout and more obvious teeth give it a mean look, whereas the broad-headed alligator "seems to be smiling."

Still, crocodiles do have a bad reputation. In folklore and legend from parts of Africa, Asia and Australia, where saltwater crocodiles can grow to 23 feet in length and weigh more than a ton, the largest reptiles on Earth often are used as symbols of evil. And they have attacked people. Crocs are said to have savaged almost 1,000 Japanese troops retreating through a Burmese swamp during World War II. A Peace Corps volunteer from Cornell University was eaten by a crocodile in Ethiopia in 1966. And 40 passengers on a sinking Indonesian ferryboat were devoured by crocs in 1976. In Florida, only one crocodile attack on a human has been documented, and that occurred in 1925, when a 14-footer reared up and seized a Biscayne Bay surfer and after he reportedly had fired two bullets into the animal. The surfer died, but the croc survived and was shipped off to a north Florida tourist attraction to perform under the name Zulu. Here, crocodiles have more to fear from humans than the other way around. Last spring a Key Largo man was charged with interfering with an endangered species after he caught a 9-foot crocodile on a treble hook baited with a chicken. He faces a fine of up to \$500 and a sentence of up to 60 days in jail. And last month four men and two teenagers in Plant City, near Tampa, were charged with climbing over a fence at a reptile park and clubbing a pair of crocodiles to death with wooden planks. The odds of seeing a crocodile in the wild are remote. The casual observer has a better chance of spotting one as road kill along busy US 1, which passes right through the crocodile's habitat. An average of two a year are hit by cars, Mazzotti said. (The Los Angeles Times)

**Two decades after being declared an endangered species, the American crocodile population is gaining ground.**

"In terms of recovery, I think we can get the population back to what it was before we started altering the habitat, maybe 2,000 to 3,000 animals. I'm cautiously optimistic."

This year scientists have located more than 50 nests in Key Largo, Florida Bay and Biscayne Bay near Miami in a range that slowly is expanding up both coasts of the Florida peninsula. Adult crocodiles have been found as far north as Fort Lauderdale on the Atlantic coast and on Sanibel Island on the Gulf of Mexico, according to Mazzotti.

## Economic woes mar Ukrainian independence day

By HENRI MARUSHKO

KIEV — Ukraine celebrated its sixth anniversary of independence from Soviet rule on Sunday, and the main surprise for its detractors is that it still exists. The country's declaration of independence in 1991, supported by 90 percent of its 51 million people, was the Soviet empire's death blow and marked the end of 300 years of rule from Moscow. Now the struggle is to reform and fully stabilize the economy. "The child is now six years old, and many are puzzled that it's still alive," Ivan Drach, president of the All-World Forum of Ukrainians, said at a conference last week marking the event. The organization unites native Ukrainians and some 10 million

ethnic Ukrainians scattered across 46 countries. Ukraine's 1,000-year-old history began with the mighty Kievan Rus empire but since then has mostly been spent under the rule of various invading powers. Drach asked delegates to lay flowers at memorials to the poet Taras Shevchenko, who 150 years ago called on Ukrainians to break the chains of tsarist rule, and to the seven million Ukrainian victims of a 1930s famine during dictator Josef Stalin's rule. "Ukraine has gone through difficult times," said President Leonid Kuchma in his independence day speech. "Now there must be intensive work done to solve Ukraine's internal problems." The new Ukraine has yet to vanquish an economic crisis which

began the day it was born, leaving millions living below the poverty line and waiting for the cash-strapped government to deliver a wage backlog totaling \$3.6 billion. But annual inflation was forecast at about 15 percent this year against a whopping 10,300% in 1993. The hryvnia, the currency last used in the Kievan Rus period and reintroduced last year, has remained rock solid. "Certainly the transition from the kind of economy that existed in the Soviet Union has been difficult. No one is under any illusions that it has been easy," said US ambassador William Miller. "But there has been significant progress." Kuchma, elected to a five-year term in 1994 on a platform of closer ties with Russia, but who subsequently aimed his policies in

favor of the West, noted Ukraine had signed treaties with Russia, Belarus, Poland and Romania. The Russia deal in May settled the long-standing dispute over the Black Sea Fleet in Crimea. Ukraine went on to celebrate the first anniversary of its new constitution in June and followed up by signing a special charter with NATO in July. "This is a transition period," said the president, who last year said Ukraine's biggest accomplishment was preservation of civil peace and inter-ethnic harmony. One Western diplomat said the continuing economic crisis detracted from the anniversary and pointed to a general "rudderlessness" and insecurity on the part of Ukrainians whether independence was desirable. (Reuters)

"Because of the continuing economic pain and no prospect of rapid improvement — at least not that the leadership has been able to convey — the ordinary Ukrainian has not been able to benefit from foreign-policy gains, which have been numerous," he said. The government under Kuchma, a Russian-speaker who learned Ukrainian after becoming president, has slowly been reversing Russification policies practiced under Soviet rule and introducing Ukrainian as the language of state and education. Some 11 million ethnic Russians live in Ukraine, while Russia and Kazakhstan are home to some seven million Ukrainians. Other countries which boast large Ukrainian populations are Canada and the US. (Reuters)

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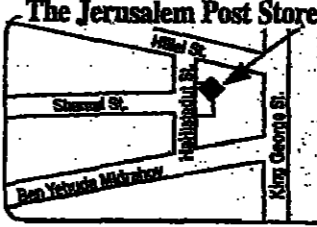
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# First-day jitters

## Two school psychologists tell Aryeh Dean Cohen how parents can help their children — and themselves — through those first crucial days of school or kindergarten

Some of them cry. Some get weak in the knees. Others fly into fits of hysterics. Yes, the first day of school isn't easy on parents of youngsters starting kindergarten or first grade.

There's the dreaded moment you say good-bye, your child clawing at your shoes, and the gnawing uncertainty about just what your child means when every time you ask him what he did at school today, he says: "Nothing."

But you don't have to dread your first close encounter with the school system. According to school psychologists Betty and Simcha Dershowitz, proper preparation, knowing your child and making yourself available are key elements to a smooth transition.

Preparation is everything — from making sure your child's school bag is packed the night before school starts to describing what school's going to be all about.

"It's important for parents to speak to their children beforehand about what it's going to be like, and about how to deal with certain situations. It's important for children to know who's going with them," says Betty, a school psychologist for the Beit Shמש Municipality and brother of four, including a daughter who's entering third grade. "Make sure that one of you goes along with them on the first day."

"But you should also talk about what they might be afraid of. Sometimes children who are starting school for the first time are afraid there are going to be older kids who might hurt them, and

aren't sure what to do in such a case. They might be concerned about what will happen if school is too hard for them."

Simcha, who is director of the Jordan Valley Regional Council's School Psychology Clinic and Developmental Unit, says separation anxiety is also a major problem, at least initially.

"Some youngsters have problems adjusting to any new place," he explains, "and this is another separation, another new start."

The first few days should be handled carefully, Betty says. "I believe more in staying with children and doing it gradually: leaving them for half an hour, and then coming back, and the next day leaving them a little longer." Most schools and kindergartens have shorter hours the first few days expressly for this reason.

Some kindergartens and first-grade teachers have a policy of shooing parents out the door, but Betty disagrees with this.

"One shouldn't leave children when they're crying or upset, or tell them that you're not going, and then suddenly disappear. It's important to

tell them: 'I'm going, and then I'm coming back.'"

It's important to periodically go over the day's schedule with your child, says Simcha. "This is so you both have some structure in your minds. Go over what's going to be: you'll have recess at this hour, I'll pick you up at this time."

Betty recommends talking about first-day experiences with older siblings, who can allay some fears. There are also children's books on the subject that parents can read with their youngsters. She also suggests making sure you show your child where everything is in his or her new environment: the bathroom, where one can get a drink, etc.

ONCE YOU'VE made it past the first week, watch your children for some tell-tale signs of potential problems.

"If you see a very big change in their whole behavior or mood, if they stop eating, for example, then you should check it out," says Betty.

There are more subtle signs as well. "The child suddenly starts saying: 'My stomach hurts, my head hurts, I'm not feeling well.' The

body talks, and you have to pay attention to it," says Simcha.

However, he also cautions about reacting too soon. "First, there's a general letdown in a child after the first few days of school. There's a tremendous build-up beforehand, with everyone telling the child that he's a big kid now, etc. So keep in mind that this is a normal process in the child, and you have to give it some time. If things don't pick up again, it's worth looking into where the difficulties are."

The first place to go in most schools is the school guidance counselor (yo'etz or yo'etzet). While some parents believe in marching into the principal's office to take up any problem, the Dershowitzes both counsel going to the guidance counselor first, since he or she will in any case likely be involved in making whatever change is deemed necessary.

However, parents should also realize that during the first week of school, principals and school staff often feel "like they're standing with their finger in the dike," as Simcha describes it, overwhelmed with requests for transfers for very petty reasons.

Sometimes a parent can help a child overcome problems without intervening personally.

"Most processes of adjustment take some time, even good things," says Simcha. "So a certain amount of stress and difficulty should be expected. But you can tell your child: 'I know you're a clever person, remember how well you did in kindergarten, etc. Well, this is a whole new game, and you have to find your place, and it's not easy, and will take time, and we're here to help you if you need us.'"

"Then you need to keep an eye on what kind of process is happening. In an adjustment cycle like that, the child will usually summon up his strengths and try to adjust, and in most cases, he'll succeed." Intervening too soon, he says, sends the message that "I don't think you can do it."

Parents should also try to listen to their children talk about their school experiences, the Dershowitzes say.

"Begin by asking your child to describe his or her day to you," says Simcha. "Ask: 'What did you do today? Who did you meet? How's your teacher? Find opportunities to do things together to give the child a chance to talk. Try to spend extra time with the child the first week.'"

As for the dreaded H word — homework — the Dershowitzes say the amount of parental involvement depends on your child. "If a child needs help or asks for help, you should give a reasonable amount,

not conducive to good work, or some objective difficulty that hasn't been diagnosed yet," he says. "It's important to find out what that difficulty is."

There are also children who use homework as "a way of catching a parent's attention," says Betty. Stretching their homework out all night ensures they have your attention, she says. Instead, try making sure they get attention in other ways.

IT'S ALSO important for children to realize that even if they have difficulty in school, they're still okay. "It's important for a parent to support them and tell them that whatever they manage, it's okay, or find ways to deal with not managing," says Betty.

Simcha suggests talking to your children about your own school days, if they were problematic, explain that those same problems are not necessarily going to happen to your children. Ultimately, parents who feel comfortable about their child's first days in school will convey that feeling to their children.

"I think children can sense what's going on inside their parents, whether their parents are letting them grow up and go on," says Betty. "Sometimes we have cases where parents want to keep their children behind another year in kindergarten, because the parents aren't ready to let the child grow up into that stage."

At least at the beginning, be home when your kids come home so you can hear how their days were, she advises. But most of all: "Take a deep breath and let the child fly," she says. Let him or her feel like they're going to succeed, and it's going to be a positive experience."



Preparation is everything — from making sure your child's school bag is packed the night before school starts to describing what school's going to be all about. (Efrim Kishitok)



Don't leave children when they're crying or upset. Say 'I'm going — and then I'm coming back.' (R. Finkel)

### PARENTING

## Scripts to ease your role as parent

**By RUTH MASON**  
**How To Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk** is one of my favorite books on child-rearing. It's fun to read, practical and, if you can apply its principles, extremely helpful to both parents and children. The book was written by Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish, who attended Dr. Chaim Ginott's parenting workshops for five years. Ginott, a noted child psychologist, was the author of the best-selling *Between Parent and Child* (published in 1956) and stressed good communication as the key to solving

child-rearing problems. Faber and Mazlish tell about their experience in Ginott's workshops in their first book, *Liberated Parents, Liberated Children*, which is also a very interesting read. In *How To Talk*, the authors go a step further and very concretely describe how we parents can change our behavior so that our kids will change theirs. Each chapter ends with a summarizing cartoon and a list that can be posted on the fridge for a quick reminder. Here are some tips from the book: When responding to a child's distress: Instead of half-listening, give him your full attention — i.e., turn

off the TV, put down the paper, or turn away from that sink full of dishes and really listen. Instead of asking questions or giving advice ("Somebody stole my new red pencil!" "Are you sure you didn't lose it?" or "What do you expect when you leave things lying around?"), acknowledge your child's feeling with a simple word such as "Oh," or "I see." This gives your child the space to figure out the problem for herself. Instead of denying his feelings, name them. Your child comes up to you crying and says, "My hamster died." Instead of saying, "Don't cry, we'll get you another one," try saying something like "Losing a pet can hurt." Your child then feels

heard and understood and has a chance to work through his feelings. When you want to engage your child's cooperation: Instead of blaming or commanding, describe the problem. Instead of "Why do you always leave your wet towel on my bed?" try "The towel on my bed is getting my sheets wet." Instead of "Get off the phone this instant!" try "Thalia, I need to make a phone call now." Instead of accusing or insulting, give information. Rather than saying "I told you a hundred times not to leave the milk out!" try "Milk gets spoiled when it's not in the refrigerator." Rather than "It would never occur to you to help me with

the housework, would it?" try "It would really be helpful if the table were set for dinner now." Instead of telling your child what's wrong with him, describe your own feelings. Rather than, "You are rude! Always interrupt!" try "I feel so frustrated when I start to say something and can't finish." Alternatives to punishment: Your child is acting wild in the supermarket. He's running down the aisles, grabbing food. You know the scene. Instead of threatening ("If you run down the aisle again, I won't buy you a cookie" or taking away a privilege "You're acting like a wild animal! No TV for you tonight," try one or more of the following: Point out a way to be

helpful. "It would be helpful if you picked out three big lemons for us." Express strong disapproval: "I don't like what's going on! It's disturbing to shoppers when children run in the aisles." Give a choice. "Leor, no running. Here are your choices: You can walk or you can sit in the cart. You decide." And if he keeps running, pick him up and say, "I see you decided to sit in the cart." Let the child experience the consequences of his behavior without lecturing or moralizing. Keep your tone and expression friendly. Here's an imaginary conversation that takes place the day after the supermarket incident: "Mommy, where are you going?"

"Shopping." "I want to go too." "Not today." "Why not?" "You tell me why." "Because I ran around in the store?" "You guessed it." "I'm sorry. Give me another chance!" "There'll be plenty of other chances. Today, I'm going by myself." These examples and many others in the book are not meant to be scripts but illustrations of a different way of doing things. Don't get overwhelmed by trying to do it all at once. Choose one area or skill — such as acknowledging your child's feelings — and go with it for a week. See what happens. And if you'd like to share the results, please write and let us know!

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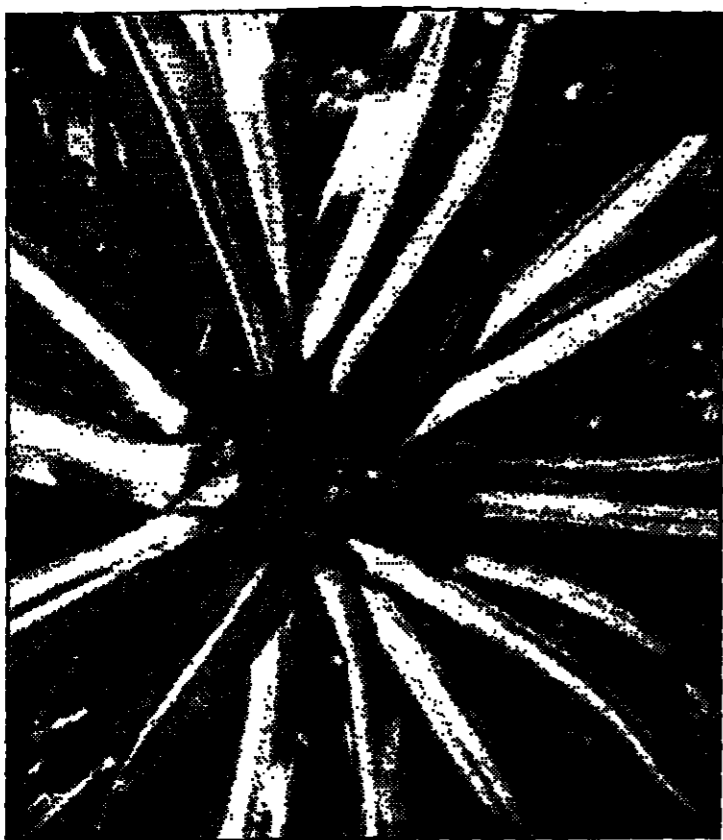
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GARDENER'S CORNER

# Extra terrestrials for the home



Blushing bromeliad

By BATSHEVA MINK and DAVID BRAUNER

**I**f a committee had designed the camel and worked overtime, what would it have come up with in the plant kingdom? It would have to be a plant that's exotic, colorful, easy to care for, and one rarely troubled by pests and diseases. In short, it's a bromeliad.

The bromeliads, named after Swedish botanist Olaf Bromel (1639-1705), number about 2,000 species, and more are being discovered every year. Among the members of this versatile family are the pineapple, the ubiquitous tree-growing Spanish moss (Spanish's beard), and the giant puya plant of the Andes Mountains, which reaches 12 meters high.

All bromeliads, with the exception of West African Pitcairnia members, are native to the Americas. In the wild, they grow happily in deserts and rain forests, between sea level and altitudes of over 4,000 m. Many species, such as orchids, grow on high tree branches. Unlike orchids, bromeliads are much better adapted to growing in our homes.

The bromeliad family, generally distinguished by a rosette of spiny leaves and a flowering spike or stemmed flower head, divides into three groups. The epiphytes grow on trees, dry cliffs, and even telephone lines. Also known as "air plants," they are not parasites and therefore derive no sustenance from their hosts.

The terrestrials grow on the ground. They are generally low-growing with no distinct stem, and often have showy flowers and decorative, leatherlike, saw-edged leaves. The third group are the "rock dwellers," or saxicolous plants. Like the terrestrials, spiny leaves radiate from a central point which forms a

"vase" to hold rainwater. In nature, the vase is a home to animal life from protozoa to frogs. Malarial mosquitoes also commonly breed in the plant water.

Here are some gorgeous bromeliads you might want to grow.

The urn plant (*Aechmea fasciata*) has very handsome, narrow silver-and-green-banded leaves and a bright, rose-pink, cone-shaped flower head that can last up to five months.

Queen's tears (*Billbergia nutans*) is an unusual terrestrial with grass-like silvery green leaves and drooping pink flower heads. It is very easy to grow, even in the garden, provided some of the harsh sunlight is filtered out by trees and large plants.

The blushing bromeliad (*Neoregelia caroliniae tricolor*) features a splash of outer green leaves centered with yellow or white, and inner leaves painted pinkish-red. The flower head, which stays inside the leafy rosette, is bright red with a violet core.

The pineapple (*Ananas comosus*) is another terrestrial grown primarily for its famous fruit. They may only be raised in warmer regions like the Jordan Valley and Coastal Plain, where winter temperatures do not go below 13°C.

The earth star, or starfish plant (*Cryptanthus*), makes an excellent leafy house plant. The leaves are crinkled and often mottled or striped and come in a wide array of colors including rose, silver, green, chartreuse, gray, copper, white and red, or a combination of these.

The orange star (*Guzmania berteroniana*) is a tall plant with a brilliant red flower head and yellow flower center. The sword-shaped leaves are light green or wine red. All *Guzmanias* are epiphytes and flower in spring or winter.

### Caring for your bromeliads

**Water:** Keep the watering can covered. Distilled or bottled water is recommended. The compost only has to be kept moist because these plants have undeveloped root systems.

**Nourishment:** Pour a liquid feed at half-strength into the watering can once a month when the plant is in active growth.

**Soil:** Bromeliads prefer a free-draining mixture of peat moss, ground charcoal, and leaf mold, if available.

**Light:** Situate the plants in full light but avoid direct sunlight. The stiffer and stouter the leaves, the more light and water deficit the plant can tolerate.

**Pests and Disease:** If troubled by scale insects or mealy bugs, spray the plant with an insecticide or apply rubbing alcohol with a cotton swab.

Bromeliads are easily propagated after flowering when the central rosette has died and offsets, or side shoots, continue to grow. When the offsets are about 15 cm. high, they can be detached from the parent plant and potted. Small clay pots and temperatures between 21-27°C are recommended. The plant crown must not be buried, otherwise it will rot. Once established, the plants can be moved to lighter, cooler conditions.

*Batsheva Mink is curator of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Hebrew University, Givat Ram. David Brauner writes the Jerusalem Post's Thursday On Camera column and is a gardening enthusiast.*

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, P.O.B. 3943, Jerusalem 91039, or David Brauner, e-mail: morris@ashur.cc.hu.ac.il



Guzmania sanguinea



Uru plant

## Tip of the week

**I**f your young plant has reached the flowering stage but is shy to bloom, what can you do? Professional growers induce flowering by applying ethylene gas. The trick for the home gardener (who does not want to asphyxiate the family)

is to place the plant in a large cardboard box with two rotting apples. Cover the box with clear plastic wrap and place in a light spot for up to 10 days. Then return the plant to its normal situation and within a few weeks, it should flower.

## HEADS 'N' TAILS



Bowed over: "Don't tell me what cats will or will not do. They do as they damn well please!" (zoologist and Nobel laureate Nikolas Tinbergen)

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL

**I** recently read a book in which the author gave all sorts of advice about how to teach your cat to behave. I read it with interest but also much amusement, because half a century of cat keeping has convinced me that Nobel laureate Nikolas Tinbergen, the zoologist and animal behaviorist, was so right when he said, "Don't tell me what cats will or will not do." "They do as they damn well please!"

This doesn't mean that cats cannot learn; they simply learn the things they choose to learn. After several years of trying to get my favorite cat to sleep at the foot of the bed and not curl around my shoulder and play with my hair, I finally succeeded. She didn't like being shoved away, so she learned. She learned to stay at the foot of the bed - until she was sure I was sound asleep. It wasn't that she didn't get the message; she just chose her own way of complying, one that would avoid unpleasantness while allowing her to continue to do just as she pleased.

Many people ask me if cats are

less intelligent than dogs. The answer is that while we have no accurate way of estimating animal intelligence, it seems to me, and to most people who are well acquainted with both species, that cats are just as intelligent as dogs. They're simply different. Both species live in close proximity to humans, but they are essentially very different animals. To understand this, we must take a look at their most basic, natural behavioral patterns because that is where the principal difference lies.

Dogs are an offshoot of the *canidae*, and their origins date back to long ago, when they separated from wolves. They retained certain wolf-like characteristics but abandoned others.

One characteristic they retained was the tendency to live in packs and to adhere to a hierarchy of obedience to the leader, usually the strongest member of the pack. Dogs do not have to think twice about obeying anyone they see as the superior in their pack, even if that "top dog" happens to be a human. Like all pack animals, dogs want

and need the approval of those around them. Not so the cat.

Kipling's phrase "the cat that walks alone" is very accurate. Like all solitary animals, cats are accustomed to deciding for themselves. They have no instinctive behavioral pattern that makes them obedient to other cats or to humans. This is why all our most easily domesticated animals are ones that live in packs or herds and adhere instinctively to the rules of herd or pack behavior. This includes cows, sheep, goats, horses, swine and, of course, dogs.

There was a time when most experts were certain that chimpanzees were far more intelligent than orangutans because it was so easy to teach chimps all sorts of things, while it was extremely difficult to get an orangutan to absorb a lesson. But the real difference lay not in intelligence, but in motivation. The group-dwelling chimpanzee is most anxious for the approval of others, while the solitary-living orangutan simply couldn't care less. Again, it's all a matter of genes.

I am certain that it won't be long

before someone isolates the gene for adherence to pack discipline. After all, they've already found the one responsible for herding instinct in dogs and another for attention span. So it really has nothing to do with the basic intelligence of the animal. Each simply displays this intelligence in different ways. And when it comes to the raw intelligence needed for survival, it seems that the cat is even better endowed than the dog.

But a cat is not a dog, and it is doubtful that you can teach it many tricks. Cats tend, as Tinbergen said, to do as they please. But that is part of what makes a cat such a wonderful animal. Cats have a fierce independence and a devotion to their own well-being that sets them apart from other animals. We can't do much in the way of training them, but they are one of the world's outstanding experts at training us to fulfill their needs - and to do it promptly if we want any peace.

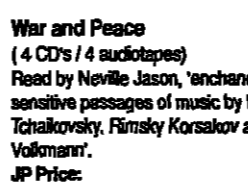
Tinbergen said something else that expressed his great admiration for the species. "If I were the Almighty and wanted to make an animal," he said, "I'd make a cat."

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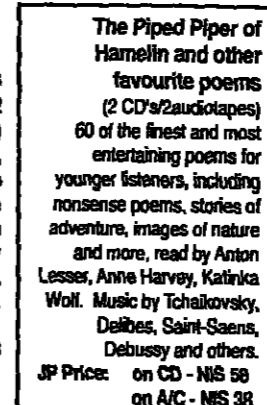
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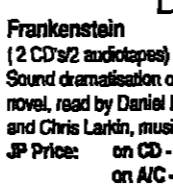
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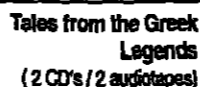
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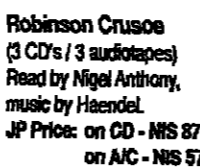
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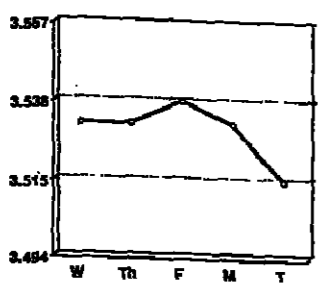
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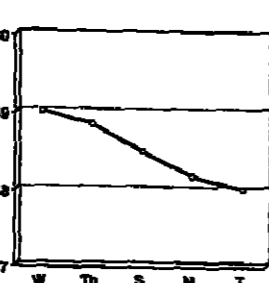
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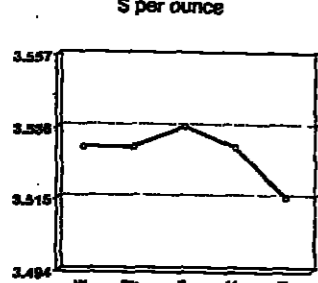
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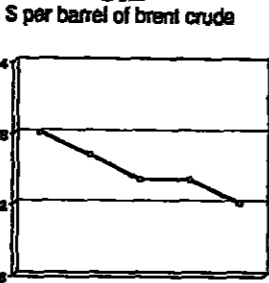
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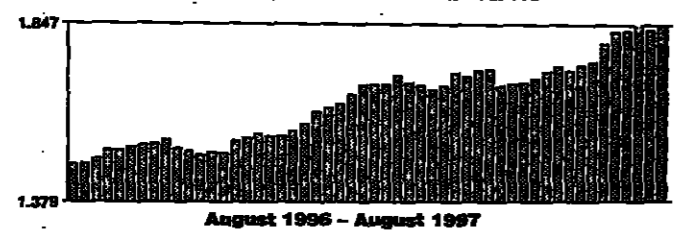
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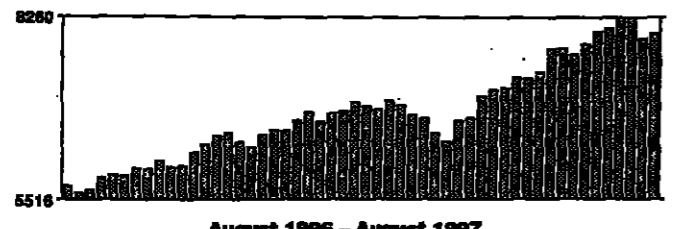
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### Computer services industry to hit \$1.3b.

Israel's computer services industry will be a \$1.3 billion market by the year 2000, according to a study conducted by International Data Corporation. In 1996, the market, which is growing at an annual rate of 18%, totalled \$621m. The research was based on interviews with computer services providers and users. *Jennifer Friedlin*

### Venture capital funds to have \$700m. in '97

Venture capital funds will have \$700 million for investing in high-tech companies this year, a survey conducted by Business Data Israel has found. By the end of the year, venture capital funds are expected to raise about \$400m., in addition to the \$300m. currently in the funds' coffers. Venture capital funds have invested in 12 companies that went public in the US in 1996, and in 10 companies that were sold to foreign firms. There are currently 2,000 high-tech firms in Israel, the study said, and 240 new ones were established in 1996. Between 1992 and 1996, venture capital funds raised \$1.5 billion. Venture capital investments in start-up companies range between \$1m. and \$5m. *Jennifer Friedlin*

After sharp increase in interest rates:

# PM may support proposal to limit Frenkel's power

By JAY BUSHINSKY and Jerusalem Post Staff

TOKYO - Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu may be coming to support a proposal for the establishment of a board of governors at the Bank of Israel, sources in his entourage here said yesterday. However, the premier avoided openly confronting bank governor Jacob Frenkel, following the latter's decision Monday to raise interest rates by a higher-than-expected 70 basis points. The board-of-governors proposal, which has been circulating in various forms for

about two years, is aimed at limiting the governor's power to set monetary policy. Under today's system, the governor decides monetary policy as the superior partner in a group of directors, all of whom are his personal appointees. The proposals suggest adding various external figures to the decision-making process, ranging from economists to industrialists. "I am not angry at the governor," said Netanyahu. "I am waiting to see what the decision will be next month. It's not something you can judge based on one incident." The premier did, however, concede that

"in order to bring about economic growth, one must generally see to it that interest rates don't go higher than is necessary in order to meet inflation targets." Netanyahu had been a staunch supporter of Frenkel's tight monetary policies - a stance which played a role in his parting company with former finance minister Dan Meridor in June. Since then, however, the economic slowdown has worsened, with first-half unemployment climbing to 7.6% and growth plummeting to 2%, while inflation stubbornly hovers just above 10%.

"I will be happy if the inflation rate responds, so we will be able to lower the interest rate," said Netanyahu. Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, who has joined Netanyahu for his trip to the Far East, added that the government "sets its economic policy on August 13th, and one month does not determine a trend. There has to be a context of several months." Frenkel's surprising decision Monday followed two relatively sharp increases in the Consumer Price Index, which rose 1% for July and by 1.1% in June.



**Automated goal**  
Children play soccer with Game Robots, which were unveiled by Sony to the public for the first time at the 15th International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence, an annual meeting where scientists put on display the latest in robot technology, in Nagoya, Japan yesterday. (Reuters)

## Computer giants 'boot up' lobbying, political contributions

By HEATHER FLEMING

WASHINGTON, (Bloomberg) - The computer industry, once a small player on the Washington political scene, is greatly increasing its contributions to political candidates as the number of issues it faces on Capitol Hill grows. In the 1995-96 election cycle, the computer industry gave \$7.3 million to political action committees, to the major political parties and to federal candidates, according to a study by the Center for Responsive Politics, a nonpartisan group that analyzes campaign spending and the influence of money on politics. Computer industry donations in the 1995-96 election cycle were 52% higher than in the last presidential election cycle in 1991-92. "While computer companies have traditionally never been

major Washington players, they are increasing their political presence," the report says. They have ample reason to get involved because "there are almost a dozen bills in the House and Senate that could affect the industry's bottom line." In addition to its campaign contributions, the industry spent \$19.9 million on lobbying expenses in 1996, the study said. International Business Machines spent the most on lobbying, \$4.9 million, followed by Texas Instruments, \$3.6 million, Electronic Data Systems, \$1.8 million; Microsoft, \$1.1 million; and Netscape Communications, \$960,000. "IBM does not contribute to any campaigns," but it does spend money on lobbying, said spokesman Fred McNeese. "We wanted our voice heard."

One of the most contentious issues before Congress this year is export controls on hard-to-break computer encryption codes. The Clinton administration, citing national security, wants the industry to provide access to a decoding device. The industry says foreign governments don't impose such restrictions, putting U.S. companies at a competitive disadvantage. Several bills are moving through both the House and Senate that would relax the export controls. Another controversial measure is the World Intellectual Property Organization treaty on copyright protection for the Internet. Proposed legislation includes a provision that forbids the manufacture of most devices designed to circumvent encryption technology. Computer hardware companies say they're concerned this

provision is too strong because some products that have other legal uses can be used to bypass encryption technology. The industry is also backing legislation that would prohibit taxes on Internet commerce. It says taxation would stifle development of new technologies. Top House recipients of the computer industry's money in the 1995-96 election cycle were: California Republican Tom Campbell, Virginia Republican Thomas Davis, Seattle Republican Rick White, Massachusetts Democrat Joseph Kennedy, and California Democrat Ann Eshoo. Top Senate recipients were: Texas Republicans Kay Bailey Hutchison and Phil Gramm, Virginia Republican John Warner, and Massachusetts Democrats Edward Kennedy and Democrat John Kerry.

## 'Long-distance registration was flawed'

By JUDY SEGEL

The three overseas phone call providers will have to start registering subscribers all over again with a form to be filled in and mailed back, regulators said yesterday. The Communications Ministry stated that callers who accessed the companies' services orally since early July, or in writing before August 25 could not be regarded as official subscribers to a single company. Those who fill out a form after August 25 - with even one company - will be able to dial 00 and 188 and be hooked up automatically to the provider they chose. Until now, everyone who has called 00 or 188 was connected to Bezeq International (BI), which held the monopoly for overseas calls. Cellular phone users, too, will have to fill in a form if they want to get the automatic dialup connection and enjoy the new rates. All callers may continue to contact the three companies by dialing the prefix 012 (Golden Lines), 013 (Barak) or 014 (BI), in addition to 00 and 188. The ministry said the three companies can design the forms as they wish, as long as they contain all the details required by the ministry. Publicity material must not be included as part of the form itself, the ministry said. The two new companies have been complaining about "unfair competition" from BI, arguing that it has been allowed to undercut the rates Barak and Golden Lines were permitted to charge according to the ministry tender. But the ministry says the Barak and Golden Lines consortia knew all the conditions when applying to the tender. The market should soon stabilize, the ministry adds, and the volume of calls has grown to benefit all three providers.

## AT&T, Westinghouse officials here next month

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Senior executives from AT&T and CBS Westinghouse will be part of a delegation arriving in Israel on September 7 for a two-day visit, said Edgar Fulton, commercial counselor at the US Embassy in Tel Aviv. Representatives from ITDN, Sunwise Technologies, GE Medical and CMS Energy will also be among the visitors, who will be led by Judith Barnett, the US Commerce Department's deputy assistant secretary for Africa and the Near East. While in Israel, the delegates will meet with Communications Minister Limor Livnat, Minister of Industry and Trade Natan Sharansky and several undisclosed Israeli companies. CBS Westinghouse is expected to explore participating in a bid to establish a third television network. The two-fold purpose of the trip is to increase US exports to Israel and to promote business relationships between Israel and other Arab countries, Fulton said. "We see this visit as very, very significant because we are going to try to establish regional trade activities regardless of political ups and downs," he said. After leaving Israel, the delegation will continue to Morocco and Tunisia. All the firms participating in the tour have expressed an interest in doing business in the Israeli and Arab markets, said Fulton. "We have chosen companies that consider the Middle East a single region," the commercial counselor said.

## Idan's Millenium Bug cure costs Leumi \$13m.

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

when the new millennium arrives. Idan, a subsidiary of Formula Systems, Israel's largest software house, said the contract will allow the company to exceed last year's \$19 million in revenue. Including the Bank Leumi project, the firm has so far recorded approximately \$26m. in sales this year. "We are optimistic about the future," said CFO Meir Moshe, adding that the company is currently bidding for a number of local contracts. Tadiran Information Services, Ltd. and Idan's affiliate Crystal System Solutions Ltd. will serve as subcontractors for certain portions

of the Bank Leumi project. The Millennium Bug, alternately known as the Year 2000 Problem, or YK2, is the result of a shortcut taken by early programmers to save byte space. Instead of putting in four digits to represent each calendar year, they dropped the first two numbers and entered years by their last two digits - for example, "97" was input instead of "1997." Unless computers are taught to recognize an entry of "2000," when the new century arrives, systems around the world will read the new year as "00" and either revert back to 1900 or simply stop functioning.

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MISHTANIM LEADING STOCK TASE ISSUES

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including Al Paper Mills, Alchemia Ind., Alchemia Ltd., etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including Bank Leumi, Bank Leumi A, Bank Leumi B, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including Bank Leumi C, Bank Leumi D, Bank Leumi E, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including Bank Leumi F, Bank Leumi G, Bank Leumi H, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including Bank Leumi I, Bank Leumi J, Bank Leumi K, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including Bank Leumi L, Bank Leumi M, Bank Leumi N, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including Bank Leumi O, Bank Leumi P, Bank Leumi Q, etc.

KARAM SMALL CAPITALIZATION TASE ISSUES

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including ATX, ATX Bond, ATX Bond 2, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including ATX Bond 3, ATX Bond 4, ATX Bond 5, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including ATX Bond 6, ATX Bond 7, ATX Bond 8, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including ATX Bond 9, ATX Bond 10, ATX Bond 11, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including ATX Bond 12, ATX Bond 13, ATX Bond 14, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including ATX Bond 15, ATX Bond 16, ATX Bond 17, etc.

Table of stock prices and changes for various companies including ATX Bond 18, ATX Bond 19, ATX Bond 20, etc.

ISRAELI SHARES IN NEW YORK

Table of Israeli stock prices in New York including Amiram Paper Mills, Amiram Paper Mills A, etc.

NASDAQ

Table of NASDAQ stock prices including A.S. Associates, A.S. Associates A, etc.

NYSE

Table of NYSE stock prices including Blue Square, Blue Square A, etc.

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

Table of international stock prices including Amiram Paper Mills, Amiram Paper Mills A, etc.

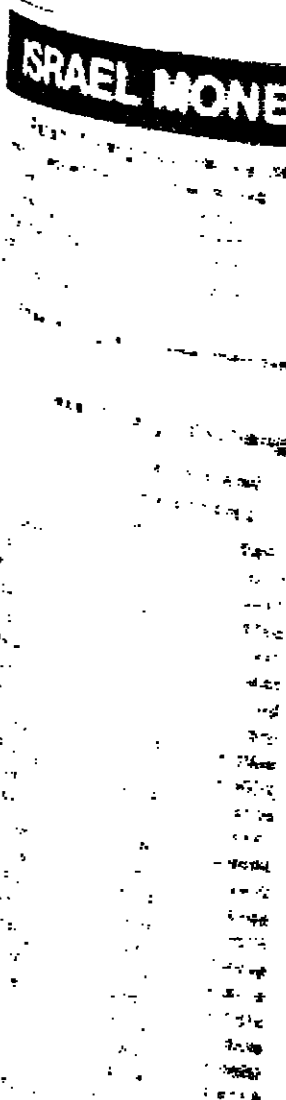


Table with financial data including Union Carbide, Union Pacific, and other stock prices.

Table with NYSE STOCKS and DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US) including Pound, Swiss, and other rates.

Table with LONDON COMMODITIES and SPOT MARKET METALS (AU) including Gold, Silver, and Platinum.

Table with PARIS and FRANKFURT market data including various stock prices.

Table with NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES including DJ Industrials and DJ Transport.

Table with OTHER MARKET INDEXES including FTSE 100 and Nikkei 225.

Table with LONDON COMMODITIES including Oil, Gas, and other commodities.

Table with NEW YORK METAL FUTURES including Gold, Silver, and Copper.

# TASE drops following rate hike

**DAN GERSTENFELD and Bloomberg**

## Tel Aviv

Stocks in Tel Aviv dropped after the Bank of Israel said it will raise the rate at which it lends to banks a higher-than-expected 0.7 percentage point, to 13.4 percent. The central bank made the announcement after the exchange closed for the day on Monday. Declining shares included Koor, Israel's largest publicly traded industrial company, which fell 1% after Claridge Israel, an investor in the company, denied a news report that it's pushing for a new strategic plan for Koor. Koor's American depositary receipts were down 1/8 at 21 1/4 in early trading yesterday. The Maof Index of 25 issues fell 0.59% to 295.68 and the Mishman Index of 100 issues fell 0.67% to 287.71. The general bond index fell 0.2%.

## Asia

Japanese stocks rose, led by automakers such as Toyota Motor Corp. and Nissan Motor Co., after the country's five biggest car manufacturers said production and exports grew in July from a year earlier. The benchmark Nikkei 225 Stock Average rose 158.81 points, or 0.85%, to 18,814.98. The broader Topix index of all shares on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange rose 11.85 points, or 0.81%, to 1,465.91. Seven stocks rose for every four that fell on the first section. Automakers gained for a second day as investors bet they'll benefit from the increase in exports and a stronger dollar. "[Monday's] numbers were very good. If they had been better, we'd risk trade friction with the US," said Ichizo Yamauchi, director of research and planning at Kokusai Asset Management Co., which handles 170 billion yen (\$1.4 billion). The Topix index of automakers had fallen about 9% in the first three weeks of August. "We're seeing buying on the dips - people were too pessimistic and oversold auto shares," Yamauchi said. UK stocks fell for a second session, reflecting losses by their European counterparts, amid concern German interest rates could soon rise. British Telecommunications

## STOCKS

Table with stock market data: Maof 295.68 v 0.59, Dow Jones 7782.22 v 77, FTSE 4886.30 v 0.30, Nikkei 18814 v 0.59.

## Europe

UK stocks fell for a second session, reflecting losses by their European counterparts, amid concern German interest rates could soon rise. British Telecommunications

## Wall Street

**NEW YORK (Reuters)** - Blue-chip stocks closed lower for the fourth straight session yesterday as the market was again stuck in a corrective mode, and investors were discouraged by a weakening dollar. Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow Jones industrial average ended down 77.35 points, or nearly 1 percent, at 7,782.22. On the broader market, declining issues led advances by a small margin on modest volume of 451 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange. Investors found few reasons to take major positions in the choppy market. "In order for some enthusiasm, the market needs either a constructive news event or it has to go to low enough levels that it begins to look attractive, and we are not there yet," said Joseph Barthel, chief investment strategist at Falmstock & Co. Smaller stocks, however, continued to find some buyers. The Russell 2000 rose 0.22 of a point to 418.31. In New York trading, the dollar fell to 1.7975 German marks from 1.8196 marks in late dealings on Monday, weighed down by speculation that the German central bank could eventually have to raise interest rates. analyst at ABN Amro Hoare Govett in Amsterdam. "The interest-rate climate in Germany is deteriorating." The dollar extended its slide when stop-loss orders to sell the US currency were triggered as it fell through 1.8150 marks and 1.8120, said Gerry Celaya, an analyst at American Express Bank. A report that industrial production rose a revised 2.9% in June from a year earlier, up from a previous estimate of a 1.4% rise, helped fuel rate-increase speculation. "With burgeoning industrial production, a lot of people are betting they will raise rates next time around," said Albert Wolfman, a currency trader at WZB Bank in Frankfurt. Bundesbank officials have warned in the past few weeks that inflation could accelerate. That's

# Shekel appreciates sharply on rate rise

The shekel appreciated yesterday by a sharp 0.43% against the dollar following the decision of the Bank of Israel to raise its key lending rate for September by 0.7 of a percentage point. Dealers said that the market was also influenced by the expiry of the shekel-dollar options for August yesterday and the slide of the US currency against the mark. Analysts said that the general circumstances surrounding the central bank's monetary policy and the government's response to the business sector's attempts at eroding Governor Jacob Frenkel's clout, make it difficult to predict the market's direction in the coming days. In London, the dollar tumbled below 1.80 marks for the first time in a month amid expectations German interest rates are poised to rise soon to curb inflation. The dollar erased the brief

gains it made after the Bundesbank kept its securities repurchase rate at its record low of 3.0% for another week. The US currency extended Monday's one-penny drop after figures showed consumer-price inflation in Western Germany was 2.3% in the six months to mid-August, fueling speculation the Bundesbank will lift rates to curb inflation. A rise could make mark-denominated deposits more attractive. "People are thinking it's only a question of when, and not if," said Michael Burke, an economist at Citibank. "The Bundesbank wants it like that and they seem to be getting their way." The dollar fell as low as 1.7923 marks, its lowest since July 21, and was recently at 1.7975. It slipped to 118.07 yen from 118.48 earlier, dragged lower by

## CURRENCIES

Table with currency data: Dollar 3.5150 v 0.45, Basket 3.7721 v 0.01, Mark 1.9565 v 1.04, Sterling 5.6925 v 0.57.

analyst at ABN Amro Hoare Govett in Amsterdam. "The interest-rate climate in Germany is deteriorating." The dollar extended its slide when stop-loss orders to sell the US currency were triggered as it fell through 1.8150 marks and 1.8120, said Gerry Celaya, an analyst at American Express Bank. A report that industrial production rose a revised 2.9% in June from a year earlier, up from a previous estimate of a 1.4% rise, helped fuel rate-increase speculation. "With burgeoning industrial production, a lot of people are betting they will raise rates next time around," said Albert Wolfman, a currency trader at WZB Bank in Frankfurt. Bundesbank officials have warned in the past few weeks that inflation could accelerate. That's

# Gold rises on sliding dollar

Gold climbed in London as the dollar fell against both the Japanese yen and the deutschemark. European equity markets also fell. The dollar fell as much as 2.8 pennings 1.7923 marks, a one-month low, and 0.85 yen to 117.80 yen amid expectations that the Bundesbank will soon raise interest rates to counter surging consumer prices and imported inflation. A falling dollar makes gold cheaper to buyers using other currencies. "The real thing to watch for in the gold market today is the falling dollar," said Peter Cardillo, research director at Westfalia Investments Inc. in New

York. "As far as I'm concerned, the dollar has peaked against the European currencies, especially the mark." Spot gold rose as much as \$1.75 to \$326.45 an ounce in London inter-bank trading. European equity markets fell with the dollar as the prospect of higher interest rates in Europe's largest economy spurred concern that exports could slow and corporate earnings could fall. There's no question about it," falling equities may also boost gold in coming months, Cardillo said. "A disorderly decline in the dollar could make for nervous equity markets in the US, and investors will be on guard against any sign that inflation-could come to the US." Gold is traditionally used as a hedge against unstable equity markets and rising prices.

## COMMODITIES

Table with commodity data: Gold \$325.25 v 0.55, Brent Oil \$18.22 v 0.32, CRB 238.20 v 0.66.

oil at this time of year, is expected to wane with just one week of the traditional driving season left in the US, the world's biggest energy market. US brokers blamed the fall on a glut of exports from Europe to the East Coast, and a gradual end to refinery problems that have dogged output in boosting supply as well. October Brent crude on the International Petroleum Exchange traded 27 cents lower at \$18.27 a barrel from Friday night's close of \$18.54 a barrel.

## Energy

Brent crude oil futures prices fell today in London to match declines in US prices yesterday, when the International Petroleum Exchange was shut for a national holiday, brokers said. Gasoline demand, which is the key to refiners' demand for crude

## Heavy metals

Copper prices were little changed on the London Metal Exchange. LME copper inventories rose 575 metric tons to 273,100 tons, its highest level in

# Precious metals

Gold climbed in London as the dollar fell against both the Japanese yen and the deutschemark. European equity markets also fell. The dollar fell as much as 2.8 pennings 1.7923 marks, a one-month low, and 0.85 yen to 117.80 yen amid expectations that the Bundesbank will soon raise interest rates to counter surging consumer prices and imported inflation. A falling dollar makes gold cheaper to buyers using other currencies. "The real thing to watch for in the gold market today is the falling dollar," said Peter Cardillo, research director at Westfalia Investments Inc. in New

# High yields lure US bond buyers

US bonds erased early losses as traders dismissed reports showing stronger-than-expected consumer confidence and home sales, said Richard Schwartz, a bill and note trader at Zion's First National Bank Capital Markets in Salt Lake City, Utah. As of mid-day yesterday, the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond bounced back from a loss of as much as 19/32, or \$5.94 per \$1,000 bond, and was recently down 2/32. Its yield was steady at 6.67 percent. The two-year note yield fell 1 basis point to 5.97%. Bonds had fallen earlier - driving yields to their highest since July 2 - as the dollar tumbled and reports showed the economy remains robust. Now, investors find bonds attractive, given that there's little inflation, increasing the chances that Wall Street firms could find buyers for

## BONDS

Table with bond data: US 30-year T-bill yield 6.67%, and other bond yields.

# ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Table with interest rates: Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) for 3 months, 6 months, and 12 months. Also includes Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates for various currencies.

Tei Aviv shares data supplied by Pacific Mediterranean Investments, Tel. 09-558-5873. All other data supplied by Commstock Trading Ltd., Tel. 02-624-4963. Due to technical failures data may be inaccurate. The Jerusalem Post will not be held responsible for the consequences of any transaction made on the basis of these data.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS. Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96). Currency (deposit for): 3 MONTHS, 6 MONTHS, 12 MONTHS. Includes table with rates for USD, GBP, JPY, etc. Also includes Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates (26.8.97) table with buy/sell rates for various currencies.

PRECIOUS METALS. Gold climbed in London as the dollar fell against both the Japanese yen and the deutschemark. European equity markets also fell. Includes section for ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS with interest rate tables.

High yields lure US bond buyers. US bonds erased early losses as traders dismissed reports showing stronger-than-expected consumer confidence and home sales. Includes section for ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS with interest rate tables.

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS (continued). Includes table with interest rates for Patah and Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates.

WHERE TO GO. Notices in this feature are charged at NIS 28.08 per line, including VAT. Includes list of services like HADASSAH, TEL AVIV MUSEUM, etc.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS (continued). Includes table with interest rates for Patah and Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates.

THE BUSINESS SCENE

By GREER FAY CASHMAN



(Left to right) Uri Scharf, Yoram Belizovsky, Ehad Olmert and Mordechai Katzinger

Loans provided over the past six years by the Jerusalem Business Development Center (JBDC) exceeded NIS 45 million, the center's director Uri Scharf told Jerusalem Mayor Ehad Olmert last week during an inspection tour of new companies in the capital. He underscored the fact that 5 percent of the city's workforce is employed in businesses established with the center's assistance. Scharf demonstrates new technology to Yoram Belizovsky, chairman of the JBDC, Mayor Olmert and Mordechai Katzinger, one of the proprietors of Silicon Valley, a high-tech company which was started with the help of the center.

Jonathan Chiswick, a senior executive with Dreamworks, the production company owned by Steven Spielberg, David Geffen and Jeffrey Katzenberg, has been put in charge of Dreamworks worldwide distribution (excluding the US). Dreamworks' movies are distributed by UIP, which is represented in Israel by the Globus Group. Succeeding Chiswick as UIP representative in Israel, a post which he held for five years, is Rachel Katz, who was previously a vice-president in the Globus Group.

Amir Radosh, the proprietor of Spaces of the Galilee, has acquired the controlling interest in the veteran Jerusalem-based Oppenheimer chocolate and candy company. Radosh purchased 51 percent of the company's shares earlier this month, thereby becoming chairman of the board of directors. One of his initial displays of power was to promptly replace Moshe Oppenheimer, the second generation general manager, and son of the company's founders, Gerda and Asher Oppenheimer. The senior Oppenheimers, who established

the company half a century ago, continue to come to work daily even though the family's shares have been reduced to only 16%.

Gurion Meltzer has been appointed chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Jerusalem College of Technology-Machon Lev, replacing Chairman Kibrisky, who recently passed away. Meltzer, who only a few weeks ago stepped down from the chairmanship of the Betzer directorate, was formerly CEO of Tadiran, transforming the then failing company into a thriving profit maker. He also held senior management positions at Telrad and Koor Industries. He is currently chairman of the Israel Australia Chamber of Commerce.

Rami Hadar has been appointed general manager of the Tourist Development Administration in the Negev. He has been involved in numerous business and development projects in the southern region of the country.

Yossi Shoval, head of industry and sales promotion at IBM Israel, is now also company spokesman, responsible for all marketing related communications.

Internet cafes, bars and restaurants are no longer a novelty, but Internet hotels remain a rarity. Guests at the newly refurbished and reopened Marescalet Facility Club, the hotel operating on the Mount Scopus campus of the Hebrew University, will be able to plug in, directly, to an infinite number of data bases, and the Internet without a modem, says Moshe Feder, HU vice-president and director general. All the guest rooms and conference rooms are wired with connections to the university's CompuNet Center.

Minor complications

In spite of a host of bank restrictions, you can save for your child's future

By NEIL COHEN

Last weekend a close friend explained to me that there was an article that I had to write. I am accustomed to being told of articles I have to read, but not too many that I need to write. In any case, I am pleased to illuminate on this important subject: investing for children.

I well remember my late father helping me to open my first National Savings account at the post office when I was still a little boy. There was a feeling of wealth, importance and responsibility, even though there were only a few pounds in the account.

But for local youth, there are a variety of obstacles standing in the way of these valuable lessons. Upon calling around to the banks to research local investing options, I learned that children (under the age of 18), as dictated by the Bank of Israel, are not allowed to have bank accounts. The main reason being that minors cannot be parties to a legal contract, and most aspects of a bank account involve a contractual legal relationship.

And while parents can open savings plans for their children, even here restrictions apply, and there are unnecessary and unfair complications and limitations. In my search for the truth and the options, I called four of the five biggest banks. One never got back to me, most likely because they didn't have anything to offer; two sent me listings of the various savings accounts they offer with no special reference to children, the inference being that they don't offer anything special.

The situation at the fourth bank, First International, is by and large the same, but it does offer a couple of interesting twists. Insofar as the minimum opening deposit is NIS 1,000, and the minimum deposit in monthly plans is NIS 100, First National is no different from its competitors. However, it does allow younger savers to make as few as three deposits each year (to be precise it allows savers a five month grace period between deposits) so that they can save up the required amounts between deposits.

It should be noted that no deposit can be smaller than the first one. The plan offers the same rate as the "adult" version of the plan. Funds can be withdrawn after two years and at six month intervals thereafter. As an additional gesture, the bank will allow junior savers to open a limited type of checking account, through which they can make deposits into the savings account, but that's about all.

While digging around, I also came across the self-styled Center for Insuring the Child, which as far as I can tell is a marketing ploy by an insurance agency offering the "Dowry Savings Scheme," which is effectively a kind of managers' insurance scheme with a long-term-with-profit savings plan, with a risk-insurance element. Unlike the bank schemes, which are risk-free, index-linked deposits, these with-profits schemes invest one's money in a mixture of assets ranging from government bonds to shares, loans and

real estate. They are not risk free.

The risk-insurance element covers the possibility that the parent funding the scheme may be disabled and unable to go on making the payments. If this happens, the insurance company takes over the payments. These schemes need to be analyzed in just the same way as a managers' insurance scheme is. What fees and charges does the insurer (and his agent) deduct? How much does the insurance really cost for what level of coverage and how much of the cost go toward savings? How well have portfolios managed by the insurer performed over the last few years and over longer periods - in absolute terms and benchmarked against competitors and standard indices?

Having established that children can't enjoy the experience of having a bank account, can we at least come to some sort of conclusion about how best to save for their long-term future (education, wedding, apartment, etc.)? My gut feeling is that tailor-made insurance policies of the sort described above are typically very expensive and deliver mediocre returns. Bank savings plans are a cheap, low-risk, but at best moderate, return option (though probably as good as anything immediately available to the average saver in this country).

In general, my answer to the "how best" question is "aggressively." In the US or the

UK, where there are fairly sophisticated markets with lots of quality blue-chip companies, fast-growing smaller companies and mutual funds with long-term track records of generating above average value for their shareholders, I would have no hesitation in building portfolios based 100 percent on stocks.

There is no reason why the same would not be the case for someone in this country, other than that foreign currency and tax regulations make the strategy I would adopt tax-inefficient and potentially something of a headache bureaucratically. I might just put 20% of the money I planned to save into the local market, but spread over four or five carefully selected companies. I might put 20% into a really good US mutual fund - probably a value fund. The rest I would spread around the world's emerging markets - probably via individual country mutual funds (rather than pooled emerging markets funds).

The fact of the matter is that while the US, Europe and Israel may continue to grow, it is some of the world's poorer and less developed economies that will grow fastest over the next 10 or 20 years. So a well run China Fund and an India Fund would be my first picks. Then you can take your pick between Brazil, Russia and Taiwan.

There may be bumps along the way, but the ride is likely to be a profitable one. There are ways one can structure such plans for maximum tax efficiency (consult your accountant) if you are entitled to a foreign-currency exemption. Otherwise you'll either have to take the tax consequences, hope for the best in the local market or stick to savings plans.

PERSONAL FINANCE



WITH NEIL COHEN

The flip-side of coin collecting

By JON FRIEDMAN

NEW YORK - For coin collectors, these are the worst of times and the best of times. With coin prices down 33 percent from 1989 highs, according to appraisers, collectors have seen the value of their collections plummet.

Depressed prices, however, are enabling collectors to obtain rare coins for a pittance compared with a decade ago. "This is a prime time to be buying coins," said Robert Weiss, owner of Old Pueblo Coin Exchange in Tucson, Arizona. Coin values have been hurt by declining inflation and the economy's stability.

"Like other collectible businesses, from 1991 to 1995, coins were affected by (declining) inflation pressures," said Harvey Stacks, the 69-year-old managing partner of Stacks, a New York coin shop opened by his father in 1934. The flip side, however, is that low prices, combined with a

healthy US economy, is bringing buyers back to coins, lifting prices a bit. "Since 1995, we have seen an acceleration of interest from buyers," Stacks said. "Prices have gone up 10 percent to 15% on the rare coins since then."

With prices near their lows and rebounding, it's an opportune time for collectors who are just getting started. Collectors say that \$20 gold coins are among those that are in the greatest demand. The US government stopped minting them in 1933 when the market value of their metal rose to \$35 each. A gold piece with an original face value of \$20 has risen in market value from \$450 to \$525 in the past year," said Stacks.

Coins need neither to be old nor gold to be valuable - just rare. In 1995, for instance, the US mint in Philadelphia issued pennies in which the word "liberty" was misspelled as "libberty." Among collectors, the

pennies soared in value to \$1,000 apiece "because they were so unusual," said Jim Richards, manager of Coins of the Realm in Rockville, Maryland. The value of the pennies declined to \$30 each after it was discovered that as many as 600,000 of the coins went into circulation, Richards said.

American coin collectors are more interested in US coins than those of other nations and cultures. "Some ancient coins can be obtained that are 2,000 years old and worth only about \$10," said J.P. Martin, who assesses coins for the American Numismatics Association, a trade group for coin dealers and collectors in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Unlike antique cars, coins don't get better with polishing and will actually lose value from a cleaning. "They're worth more in their original state," said Richards. "The minute you clean and polish a rare coin, its value would drop because you might

leave marks on it."

Coins must be handled with care. "Handle coins by the edges because oils in the skin can tarnish them," Stacks said. Humidity, too, can devalue coins, he said, "because moisture could collect on the coin and attract dirt."

Conceding that there are some unscrupulous or simply ill-informed members of their trade, dealers urge collectors to get a second opinion about coin values before making a purchase. Two weekly publications, *Coin World* and *Numismatics News*, contain price lists.

"Many times I've had to tell people that their investment of \$25,000 for a coin collection is now only worth \$5,000 because they paid too much or bought the coins from a company that was not reputable," said Weiss of Old Pueblo Coin Exchange. "They got taken advantage of."

Dealers say collectors will pay the lowest prices for coins when

buying from dealers, shops and at conventions.

Coin auctions are widely considered the best places to get the highest prices when selling collections. Sellers can also advertise coins in publications, rent space at a show or convention or sell directly to a dealer. Because dealers are going to pay less for a coin than what they believe they can sell it for, and auctions, coin shows and conventions entail other costs, a collection may have to appreciate significantly from its acquisition cost for a seller to make a profit.

And then there are always stories such as this one: At an auction in 1981, Martin, of Colorado Springs, saw a 1934 San Francisco-minted silver dollar. He knew Depression-era coins were rare and therefore valuable; however, no one else at the auction seemed to know that. Martin bought the coin for \$12. Three months later, he sold it for \$3,200. (Bloomberg)

MUTUAL FUNDS

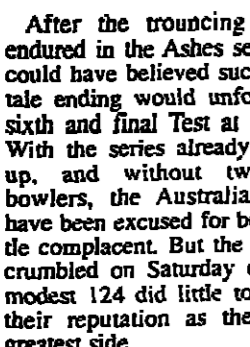
Table with multiple columns for Mutual Funds, categorized into Flexible, Foreign Currency, Company Bonds, Shares, and State Bonds. Each category lists fund names, net assets, and performance metrics (price, yield, 1997 %).



London Calling

Tea and sympathy

By Mark Rivlin



After the rousing England endured in the Ashes series...

Dalglish. Whatever the reality, to travel from Bogota to Newcastle and arrive just 10 minutes late is quite a feat.

But credit where credit is due - and no one deserves more than Phil Tufnell, the Middlesex spinner whose 11-wicket haul earned him the man-of-the-match award.

Gould, vilified in the press, does not look like he will be continuing too long in the job, but he certainly provided us with the quote of the week.

He comes over as a cheeky chappie, a cricket equivalent of Max Miller, never more so than when interviewed by the media.

Now Liverpool may have not started the season in their usual winning style, but do not rule them out - not if Saturday's performance at Blackburn is anything to go by.

The soccer season is in full flow after the enforced break for World Cup qualifiers.

Liverpool's youth team is managed by former star Steve Heighway, one of the few players past and present to hold a university degree.

When his old Middlesex teammate Simon Hughes, now working for BBC Television, grabbed him for an interview, Tufnell was less than philosophical about his achievement.

Following the Maccabiah success, Metulla's ever-energetic mayor, Yossi Goldberg, arranged for the arrival of the internationally renowned Roger Neilsen's hockey camp.

Also hitting the headlines without kicking a ball was Newcastle's Colombian striker Faustino Asprilla who arrived 10 minutes late at St James' Park for the game against Aston Villa and was forced to watch from the stands.

For the first time, the hockey camp also took place in Israel, putting this country in a very exclusive group.

According to Newcastle manager Kenny Dalglish, Asprilla had a valid excuse; he had been delayed getting out of Bogota after representing Colombia in a World Cup qualifying match during the week.

The program ran from August 10-21 with two age groups: the 10-14 year old and the juniors from 15-18 years.

These exaggerated rumors might have had an effect on the share prices allowing dealers to make a fast profit, but the club stepped in immediately and the shares closed only half a penny down on the day.

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FINESSE - Roger Neilsen (2nd from left) explains the finer points of his craft to a pair of eager Israeli youngsters (Lance Gallant)

Breaking the ice up north NHL coach leads hockey summer camp at Metulla's Canada Center

By LIONEL GAFFEN

"I never thought I'd be lacing on my skates in the middle of the desert," said Jean Beliveau, as he prepared to take his charges into the 15th Maccabiah ice hockey tournament.

years, with about 15 of the teenagers hailing from Canada.

The program was sponsored by the Canada Israel Experience Center and the United Israel Appeal of Canada, with the support of the NHL including a number of its individual teams.

Following the Maccabiah success, Metulla's ever-energetic mayor, Yossi Goldberg, arranged for the arrival of the internationally renowned Roger Neilsen's hockey camp.

Neilsen is currently assistant coach for the NHL's St. Louis Blues and has been head coach of the Toronto Maple Leafs, Florida Panthers, New York Rangers and the Vancouver Canucks during an NHL career spanning two decades.

For the first time, the hockey camp also took place in Israel, putting this country in a very exclusive group.

This is his third trip to Israel, and when approached with bringing his hockey team here by Jeff Budd, a hockey enthusiast who is competition director of the Canada Center, and Marshall Starkman, an associate of Neilsen's and a goaltending coach with the Lindsay Muskies in Ontario, he jumped at the idea.

The program ran from August 10-21 with two age groups: the 10-14 year old and the juniors from 15-18 years.

Accompanying Neilsen on this coaching mission was Bill Lindsay, 27, who is currently in his fourth year with the Florida Panthers. He began his career with the former Quebec Nordiques and was with them for a year and a half, before being taken by the Panthers in the expansion draft. There

he enjoyed the benefits of having Neilsen as his head coach for the next two seasons. The Panthers reached the Stanley Cup finals at the end of the 1995-96 season, the fastest ever for an expansion team, only to lose to the Colorado Avalanche. This is Lindsay's first summer coaching with Neilsen.

Also part of the training team was Alex Andjelic, a top European coach and author of the book *European Hockey Drill*, is currently coaching in Utrecht, the Netherlands and co-coached the German entry in the World Cup last fall. This peripatetic coach is currently hard at work in Switzerland as well as Canada, and was heavily involved with the recently completed world championship of in-line hockey, which is played on roller blades.

"Twelve professional teams took part in Anaheim, California, in this rapidly growing sport," claims Andjelic, "and it was sponsored by the IIHF (the International Ice Hockey Federation), and the NHL. It's really taken off on a world-wide basis, and seems to be ideal for a country like Israel."

"These (Israeli) kids are very eager to learn and are very disciplined. They're a pleasure to work with and are improving by

the hour." Starkman, one of the initiators of the current camp, is a former goaltender, who has become a goaltending coach, and has been with the Roger Neilsen hockey camp for the past four years. He has co-authored and directed an instructional video called *The Puck Stops Here II*. In 1996, he spent four months at the Canada Center on their volunteer program, headed by transplanted Canuck Budd.

Another hockey vet, Paul Bedford, coach and general manager of the Lindsay Muskies, has been associated with the camp since its inception. He described Neilsen as being one of the most innovative hockey coaches around. "He was the first to use video as a training tool and to emphasize conditioning, to the extent that he acquired the nickname, 'Captain Video'."

Each one of these veteran pros expressed the desire to come to Israel in the future and coach a junior hockey team. They had nothing but praise for the Canada Center, and the skating facilities in particular, saying that they were comparable to any sports facility in North America, and that it was a distinct pleasure being here in Israel.

Bosox edge Mariners in 9th despite Griffey's pair

SEATTLE (AP) - John Valentin drove in the go-ahead run with a ninth-inning single as the Boston Red Sox overcame two homers by Ken Griffey Jr. to beat the Mariners 9-8 on Monday night.

Matt Walbeck opened the 12th with a single, advanced to second on Deivi Cruz's sacrifice, before scoring on Hunter's bloop single to left.

Ron Blazier (1-1) got the win with two innings of relief in the second game, and Ricky Bottalico worked a perfect ninth for his 24th save as five pitchers combined on a five-hitter, sending San Diego to its sixth loss in eight games.

Mark Leiter (9-13) won the first game, scattering 10 hits and striking out nine in his second complete game of the season.

The low reduced Seattle's lead in the AL West over second-place Anaheim to two games. The Angels were off.

NATIONAL LEAGUE Reds 7, Rockies 4 (2nd) Reds 6, Rockies 4 (1st)

AMERICAN LEAGUE Detroit 6, Yankees 7 (1st) Toronto 7, Mariners 6 (1st)

Giants 7, Mets 1 Brian Johnson hit a two-run homer and Shawn Estes (17-4) beat host New York for the third time this season, allowing one run and six hits in 6 1/2 innings.

Griffey hit his major-league leading 42nd and 43rd homers, but the Mariners' bullpen couldn't get the job done again.

Chris Stynes had four hits and two RBIs and Jon Nunnally had three hits as visiting Cincinnati completed a sweep of a doubleheader.

TEXAS 000 011 000-2 5 1 Milwaukee 031 000 300-7 12 0

PHILADELPHIA 000 010 010-2 6 0 St. Louis 000 000 001-1 4 1

Seattle relievers Norm Charlton and Heathcliff Slocumb (0-8) blew saves in the seventh and eighth innings, giving the Mariners' bullpen 20 blown saves this year.

In the opener, Reggie Sanders and Bret Boone hit two-run homers as the Reds jumped out to a 7-0 lead.

TEXAS 000 011 000-2 5 1 Milwaukee 031 000 300-7 12 0

PHILADELPHIA 000 010 010-2 6 0 St. Louis 000 000 001-1 4 1

In the ninth, Jeff Frye drew a leadoff walk from Slocumb and Darren Bragg sacrificed. Nomar Garciaparra was intentionally walked and Valentin, who went 4-for-6, singled to left.

Larry Walker went 5-for-9 in the doubleheader, raising his average to .376, seven points behind NL leader Tony Gwynn. The Rockies had their 194th and 195th consecutive sellouts and became the first team this season to draw 3 million fans.

BOSTON 100 002 321-9 7 0 Seattle 003 011 300-8 1 1

PHILADELPHIA 000 010 010-2 6 0 St. Louis 000 000 001-1 4 1

Julio Franco homered as host Milwaukee won for the eighth time in 11 games to close within 3 1/2 games of Cleveland in the AL Central.

Ramon Martinez (7-3) won his first official start in more than two months and the Dodgers roughed up Jason Schmidt (8-7) for eight runs in 4 1/2 innings to win the opener 8-2.

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PHILADELPHIA 000 010 010-2 6 0 St. Louis 000 000 001-1 4 1

Franco hit a two-run homer and went 3-for-4 as Milwaukee (65-65) reached .500 for the first time since August 5.

Worrell (2-4) walked Eddie Williams and Randa followed with a shot to straightaway center that Otis Nixon couldn't catch despite nearly climbing the wall. Smith hit the next pitch for his second dramatic game-winner of the season.

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PHILADELPHIA 000 010 010-2 6 0 St. Louis 000 000 001-1 4 1

Tigers 7, Twins 6 (12) Brian Hunter's RBI single in the top of the 12th inning off Rick Aguilera (4-4) was the Twins' fourth straight loss and 14th in 15 games.

Phillies 6, Padres 4 (1st) Phillies 10, Padres 1 (2nd) Rico Brogna homered and drove in two runs as Philadelphia completed a doubleheader sweep at home. Midge Cummings went 6-for-9 in the doubleheader, getting his first four-hit game in the opener and driving in two runs.

PHILADELPHIA 000 010 010-2 6 0 St. Louis 000 000 001-1 4 1

PHILADELPHIA 000 010 010-2 6 0 St. Louis 000 000 001-1 4 1

Minnesota's Paul Molitor went 2-for-5 and moved into 14th place on the career hits list with 3,144.

Brad Radke, attempting to become the second 18-game winner in the majors, didn't get a decision for the first time in 23 starts since April 27. Radke allowed six runs and six hits in five-plus innings.

PHILADELPHIA 000 010 010-2 6 0 St. Louis 000 000 001-1 4 1

PHILADELPHIA 000 010 010-2 6 0 St. Louis 000 000 001-1 4 1



Tigers' Matt Walbeck (Reuters)

Table with Major League Leaders and National League Standings. Includes columns for Team, W, L, Pct, GB and lists of players and their statistics.



# Congo's miracle church

With the pastor shouting and the choir chanting loudly, all eyes were fixed on the woman with the heavy limp and pained grimace as she stood before the altar in the sweltering church.

While the woman was instructed to lie on the floor, the pastor of the Miracle Center Church, his voice booming under the high, ramshackle roof of metal and plastic sheeting, cried, "We ask the Lion of Judah to remove her pain and make her whole!" Suddenly, while large plastic collection bags were being passed around, instead of the traditional donation plate, the woman bounded up from the floor beaming, "miraculously healed. Hallelujahs rang out from the amazed worshippers.

Churches like these have become big businesses in Congo, until recently Zaire.

And the 8-year-old Miracle Center, whose credo would seem to be "the bolder the better," has become one of this ragged city's most prosperous operations.

Every Sunday, by the thousands, residents drawn by their hand back flock here in their best clothing. And the frenzied services of the church seem planned to soothe people whose marriages are broken, who cannot find work, who suffer every kind of ill, particularly AIDS.

The pastor of the Miracle Center offers is not of the traditional, spiritual kind: the promise of peace in a world beyond.

Instead, as the church's name suggests, it revolves around the idea of immediate action by God.

And despite their modest means, the worshippers accept the church's

unabashed message on divine intervention: that generous gifts can help produce it. They bring food, televisions and radios, clothing and whatever money they can gather.

Many worshippers at the Miracle Center freely admit having been warned away by neighbors, other pastors or friends. A church that promises miracles every week,

**"When people are miserable they want nothing so much as to dream and have miracles."**

while aggressively plying the congregation for donations, they have all been told, is at the very least suspicious.

But for those who keep coming back and keep giving — and there are many — the lure of their faith in miracles is too much to resist.

"My husband left me four years ago," said Evelynne Mambweni, "and since that time I have not been able to find the right man."

Mambweni, 36, an employee at a local cellular telephone company, recently gave the church the equivalent of three months' salary.

"People tell me that I am wasting my money. But what good is my money if I am not married, have no children and am unhappy in life?"

The genius of the Miracle Center, and the scores of other churches

like it that have sprung up around Kinshasa in recent years, has been in exploiting a marriage of deeply rooted Central African traditions and Western techniques. The former have to do with material sacrifice, spirit worship and magic, the latter with the driven corporate organization and hucksterism of the television evangelist.

"The missionaries who came here sought to stifle the African thirst for the miracle," said the Rev. Ndouloumbi Essambela, a conventional Baptist pastor who, like many in the more traditional religious orders here, is critical of the new evangelical churches.

"Many people will tell you that that has just left them unsatisfied," "Our churches have tended to focus on the afterlife, which is fine," Essambela said earlier this year.

"But in Zaire, there are so many real problems right here on earth. And when people are miserable they want nothing so much as to dream and have miracles." The first well-known Zairian evangelist, a Father Osborne, clandestinely preached that he could cure the sick and enrich the poor as long as 30 years ago. But religious experts here say evangelical churches like the Miracle Center spread with the loosening dictatorship of Mobutu Sese Seko, who was recently ousted.

Until 1990, when civilian opponents obliged Mobutu to accept multiparty politics, Zaire tolerated the presence of only three Christian churches: the Roman Catholic Church, brought by Belgian colonizers; the Protestant churches that followed, and a charismatic indige-

nous sect known as the Kimbanguist Church. About a quarter of Congo's 45 million people are Protestants, with as many as half of those belonging to evangelical churches.

"The older churches were very much co-opted by the dictatorship, which protected their franchise," said the Rev. Pierre Massamba, a

**"The missionaries who came here sought to stifle the African thirst for the miracle."**

Catholic priest in the Matongue district of Kinshasa. "Once the restrictions came off there was a veritable explosion of new parishes and doctrines." In Congo, it is the traditional churches, Roman Catholic or Protestant, that educate the young and care for the sick.

But the more traditional churches do not offer what increasingly desperate congregations long for. In recent years, as life here has grown harder, the older houses of worship have been steadily losing ground to their aggressive evangelical cousins.

The new churches make no bones about not reinvesting in their communities the money they collect each week. "Our concern is the word of God," said an evangelical preacher who refused to be identi-

fied. "Once people have received the word of God they can have anything." Those who run the Miracle Center reject accusations that they are robbing the already vulnerable. But at the same time they are surprisingly open about the corporate nature of their church and the special advantages that persistent traditional African beliefs give them in their competition with longer-established denominations.

"We are not only a church, we are an enterprise," said Bomperre Egede, a lay preacher and manager of the Miracle Center, who greets visitors in a fine shirt and tie in his air-conditioned office in a building behind the altar. "At the end of the month, I receive a salary for what I do." For Egede, the Miracle Center is plainly appealing to people on whom ancestral religious practices have left strong marks. The difference, he says, is that his church teaches faith in God, rather than in a panoply of spirits.

"In our traditional culture you often have to make a sacrifice if you want to get results," he said. "It is the same here. The Bible says that God will materially aid those who give to Him. All we are teaching our flock is that if you want to reap you have to sow." For Essambela, the Baptist pastor — who years ago, before being ordained, once attended evangelical services in hopes of a cure for hepatitis — the distinction is not so clear.

"The one thing they have right is that to combat this kind of thievery people need the word of God," he said. "Jesus speaks of miracles, but he never said anything about selling them." (New York Times)

# Vietnam's Caodai of honor

In the world of conformist communist Vietnam, the once-banned Caodai religious sect is a splash of color with a zeal for the garish.

Adherents commune with the spirits of historical figures, including Joan of Arc, Victor Hugo, Lenin and, for more light-hearted seances, Charlie Chaplin. They look to the spirits of such people because of strong personality traits that can be models for others.

Secured in southern Vietnam's Tay Ninh province, their main temple, decked out in blues, yellows and reds, borrows from religions around the globe in an effort to bridge the world of the living with the spirit world.

Founded in the 1920s, Caodaiism is a hybrid of Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Vietnamese spiritism, Christianity, Hinduism and Islam.

The result is a jumbled code of ethics and tenets that has attracted more than 3 million followers, despite the Vietnamese government's control of religion.

Caodai believers also practice priestly celibacy, vegetarianism and the worship of ancestors. The religion emphasizes morality and frowns on material luxuries, lust and deceit.

It's a blend of East and West. Saints include modern China's patriarch Sun Yat-Sen and Vietnam's first poet laureate, Nguyen Binh Kham.

In early June, Caodai devotees got a big boost when their religion

received official sanction from the government, legitimizing its existence in the eyes of the communist leadership.

It had been a long struggle for a religious movement that raised an army to fight against the communists during the Vietnam War. But today, the government says Caodaiism fills a void for many people.

"We find the Caodai existence meets a legitimate spiritual demand of the people here," said Muoi Thuong, a spokesman for the government's Religious Affairs Committee in Tay Ninh.

"These people are religious followers, but they are also good citizens and patriots," Thuong said in a telephone interview from his office in Tay Ninh, 95 kilometers northwest of Ho Chi Minh City.

Established by Ngo Minh Chieu, a French-educated Vietnamese mystic, Caodaiism once dominated Tay Ninh, controlling the religious and political affairs of the entire province.

In 1975, when North Vietnamese troops overran US-backed South Vietnam, Caodaiism was banned and the church's lands were confiscated. But behind the scenes, the religion lived on, with its seance rituals and prayer meetings.

Today, Caodaiism is practiced in about half of Vietnam's provinces. In Tay Ninh, about 40 percent of the province's 916,000 people are Caodai believers, and the number is expanding every year, said Thuong. (AP)

# Battling Gulf War syndrome

Britain's Labor government recently announced a new research program into the mysterious ailments suffered by many Gulf War veterans and promised to speed up assessments of their condition.

The announcement was a victory for ex-soldiers in their campaign for official recognition of "Gulf War Syndrome," which they link to preparations for the 1991 war to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait.

The government said it plans a £2.5 million (NIS 15 million) research program into the possible health effects of the combination of vaccines and tablets given to Gulf War troops to protect them against chemical and biological warfare, and against desert insects.

Veterans say the syndrome results from a "cocktail" of chemicals administered to troops and has brought problems such as asthma, chronic fatigue, depression, and skin ailments. Some maintain it has resulted in serious birth defects in their children.

The government program will be supervised by an independent panel of experts, including a representative of the Gulf veterans, said Armed Forces Minister John Reid. "We have a duty to discharge our responsibilities in respect of those who have served their country. I aim to see we do just that," said Reid, who was to meet veterans' representatives before announcing the move to parliament.

About 51,000 Britons served in the Gulf War, and up to 4,000 veterans and their families have illnesses. Veterans argue that evidence gathered in the US, whose troops were also involved in the

Gulf War, supports the theory that the cocktail of immunizations and pills may be responsible for the syndrome.

The Labor Party, which ended 18 years of Conservative rule by winning a general election on May 1, had been critical of the previous government's policy on Gulf War syndrome. It accused it of lagging behind with research and compensation for veterans. The Conservative government had insisted there was no single cause to explain the ailments, and attributed them to the stress of the war.

Reid said his government would continue to pay war pensions to

**About 51,000 Britons served in the Gulf War, and up to 4,000 veterans and their families have illnesses.**

those disabled because of the Gulf War and that if further research showed liability, it would pay compensation. He also promised to speed up the Defense Ministry's Medical Assessment Program which looks into the ailments of Gulf War veterans and said that the ministry would make public all the relevant evidence it had on the subject. (Reuters)

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# New lineup on Channel 2

By HELEN KAYE

It's rotation time again at Channel 2, and from next Monday all the franchisees move to their new days with new or special programs in prime time, to keep their audiences faithful and their ratings solid.



Dudu Topaz will be a guest of Hani Nahmias on 'In First Place.' (Yoni Hammelech)

Thursday, which means it gets an extra day next week and viewers will be able to see the last three segments of *Hafuch* ("Backwards") at 9:30 p.m. and back-to-back Woody Allen movies at 12:40 a.m. on Sunday and Monday. The sweetener is a

new Chuck Norris action series called *Walker* which starts Sunday at 7 p.m., but will play Mondays thereafter.

The big question is "what about Dudu?" Entertainer Dudu Topaz is currently abroad and there's no new contract yet, so it's nail-biting time. His slot was Sunday at 8:30 p.m. and his show consistently got ratings of around 35%.

Songstress Hani (Sound of Music) Nahmias is the drawing card for Reshet's new Tuesday/Friday time slot. She's the hostess of a variety show to run for six weeks, called *Bemakom Harishon* ("In First Place") on Fridays at 8:45 p.m., after the news. In the last week of October *Zehu Zeh* returns in the same time slot for an hour, rather than the 30 minutes it had on the old Monday/Thursday schedule.

Dan Shilon fans will be able to see him Tuesdays from 10 to midnight and Reshet has some spiffy movies lined up like *The Usual Suspects*, or *Fatal Attraction* on Saturday at 10 p.m., because Reshet keeps Saturday until April.

Einat Ehrlich supporters will still see her *Shishi Vahevi* on Fridays at 6:30 p.m., because she's moved to Reshet from Tel-Ad, which will now broadcast Sunday/Wednesday. Because of the holidays Tel-Ad has decided to defer most of its new programming to the end of October, except for one. Avri Gilad will host *Yehihev Tov* ("It'll be fine"), an entertainment program with stars, games and prizes on Sundays at 8:30 p.m., from October 5.

# Batsheva appoints general manager

By HELEN KAYE

Ben-Ami Einav, 50, has been appointed the new general manager of Batsheva Dance Company and will officially take over December 1 from acting GM Naomi Fortis. He replaces Mira Idelis, who resigned in July. He comes to the post after 12 years as the general manager of the Haifa Symphony Orchestra, a period he defines as "good, happy and successful years, but it's time to move on."

According to Einav, the search committee, consisting of Benny Gal-Ed, Nava Dissenchik and Ziona Peled, approached him, and "the challenge of managing the No. 1 dance company in the country and working with a world-class choreographer of Ohad Naharin's stature appeals to me."

Einav says that he and Naharin, Batsheva's artistic director, have met several times "and have reached an understanding. I think we can do wonderful things together." Asked whether he would be able to curb the strong-willed Naharin's plans if needed, Einav said diplomatically that "fiscal reality rules us all."

As well as running the Haifa Symphony Orchestra, Einav is head of the dance department at

the Arts and Culture Authority, a position from which he will resign. He was a member of the Talgam and Pachter government committees, appointed, respectively, to consider the situation of dance locally and the future of



Ben-Ami Einav (above) looks forward to doing 'wonderful things' with Batsheva Dance Company artistic director Ohad Naharin.

the Inbal Dance Theater. He is also a member of the ACA Executive Council.



Alcohol problems, repressed memories and messy romantic entanglements lend a sense of realism to the futuristic characters of 'Babylon 5.'

His fans have designed a church for him, but Joe Straczynski is not a god. He's a cult leader. A cult television leader, that is.

His fans put up a "Church of Joe" page on the Internet, which includes commandments, member testaments and information about J. Michael Straczynski. The church was founded to proclaim loyalty to Straczynski and the show he created, *Babylon 5* (Family Channel, 11:25 tonight).

Alongside *Xena, Warrior Princess*, *La Femme Nikita*, *The X-Files* and other contemporary shows with offbeat attitudes, *Babylon 5*, which premiered in 1994, has attracted hard-core aficionados.

Straczynski, the show's creator and executive producer, has received fan mail from places as varied as the Vatican and the Pentagon. *Babylon 5* has Web sites, bulletin boards and chat rooms. Fan clubs abound all over the world.

The syndicated program is the first science-fiction TV show in the past 30 years, aside from *Star Trek* and its spinoffs, to survive beyond three seasons. It has won two Emmys for special visual effects and make-up.

Straczynski wrote the original story outline as a five-season saga in which every season is a volume, and every episode a chapter. Set in the year 2261, the show chronicles life on a space station, *Babylon 5*. Representatives of different alien cultures have gathered there after a devastating transgalactic war, forcing former enemies to live and work together. It's an outpost, a Casablanca where the refugees are distinguished by exoskulls instead of accents.

# 'Babylon 5': The face of the future?

By TAMARA IKENBERG

Straczynski's view of the future is not as idealistic as that of Gene Roddenberry, creator of the original *Star Trek* series. It has a dark side, and conflicts are rarely resolved in time for the final credits. The characters are complex, equipped with deluxe sets of baggage. Alcohol problems, repressed memories and messy romantic entanglements lend a sense of realism. "We're going to be as flawed and screwed-up as we are now," Straczynski says. "But we're still fighting to make a better world."

Born in New Jersey, Straczynski, 43, grew up reading science-fiction and fantasy such as J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*. It was this fascination with science-fiction sagas that inspired him to cre-

ate one for television, he says. Straczynski has worked as a journalist at several California papers and has written for magazines ranging from *Writer's Digest* to *Penthouse*. He's published numerous "dark fantasy" short stories in fantasy and science-fiction magazines, in addition to having written two novels, *Demon Night* and *OtherSide*. His television writing credits include *Murder She Wrote*, *Walker, Texas Ranger* and the British science-fiction cult program *Blake's 7*.

In 1995, *Newsweek* declared him one of the "Fifty for the Future," a group of "innovators who will shape our lives as we move into the 21st century." Straczynski thinks that TV science fiction hasn't hit the mainstream simply

because it hasn't been that good. Most shows have been formulaic and stereotypical, he says, citing *V* (1984-1985), which used every convention from flying saucers to funny aliens to cute kids.

Thoughtful characterization and depth are essential, he says. "Kill the cute kid, tell a story." He does appreciate the influence and vision of the original *Star Trek*, despite its relentless optimism.

"You can have more than one paradigm," he says. "There's room in the universe for both shows."

To Straczynski, the appeal of TV science fiction is all about the future. Whether it's peaceful or riddled with conflict, people want the reassurance that they're working toward something.

Straczynski often spends more than four hours a day on the Internet beaming *Babylon 5* information to fans. He often doesn't get to sleep until around 5 a.m. "It's a gesture of respect toward the fans," he says. "I always vowed that if I ever got my own show I'd remain accessible and accountable."

The guy doesn't get out often. He's seen only two movies in the past year: *Mars Attacks* and *Independence Day*. He doesn't go to parties. He goes to dinner every week or two with science-fiction legend Harlan Ellison, who also helps out on the set of *Babylon 5*.

"I don't have a life," he says. "I don't drink, don't smoke, don't do drugs, just coffee and doughnuts."

But despite his not-quite-rock-and-roll lifestyle, it's apparent that he's larger than life in the eyes of his fans. (The Baltimore Sun)

# UN competes at Venice Film Festival

By MARTHA SLUD

At the Venice Film Festival, movie buffs can attend special screenings featuring one of the world's most industrious moviemakers: the United Nations.

More often associated with bureaucracy than creativity, the United Nations has quietly produced scores of acclaimed documentaries, animated and concert films over the years. Those lending their talent have included director Roberto Rossellini and Pulitzer Prize-winning author John Hersey.

The films are a blend of information, artistic expression and, in some cases, a good dose of the UN spin on disarmament, the environment, human rights and other weighty topics.

In the United States, the films usually are broadcast on public television stations and in schools. Broadcasters in developing nations can show them for free.

The United Nations even won an Academy Award, for the 1947 short documentary *First Steps*, about a disabled child learning to walk. The Oscar is kept in an eighth-floor meeting room of the UN Secretariat building along with other awards.

The United Nations says it's won about 75 international prizes in its more than 50 years of filmmaking, including the Cannes festival's Palme D'Or award for *Boom*, a 1979 animated film on the arms race.

"It's a well-kept secret," Nadia Younes, media director of the UN Department of Public Information, said of the filmmaking. "It's one of the ways of telling our story, and certainly the visual medium is a loud medium. From the very beginning of the UN, films were a way to accompany the work that the UN does."

Lately, the United Nations has tried to exploit its unique access to places such as Iraq and North Korea that are off-limits to most filmmakers.

The Venice festival, which opens Wednesday and runs through Sept. 6, will feature *Secrets in the Sand*, about Iraq's stockpile of biological weapons. The film includes rare footage of UN weapons experts inspecting facilities in the Iraqi desert where deadly germ warfare agents were produced.

A UN video team recently returned from North Korea, which allowed the team in to shoot footage of famine after the United Nations suggested it could pool the video to news organizations, Younes said. The United Nations has no immediate plans to produce a documentary with its footage, said Steve Whitehouse, chief of the video section of the public information department.

While making films about places such as Iraq and North Korea could be potentially volatile, UN filmmakers say they're careful not to provoke anyone. "As long as whatever documentary you make is factual and objective, and the video material has been gathered in a completely above-board and open way, there really shouldn't be any problem," Whitehouse said. He said Iraq hasn't commented on the biological weapons film, which was released a few months ago.

Also being shown in Venice is another 1997 release, *A Cyber-Tale of Three Cities*, featuring three teenagers talking to each other over the Internet about urban problems, and *Breaking Barriers*, a 1989 film about the disabled.

Younes said she hopes the Italian festival — and Secretary-General Kofi Annan's appearance there — will attract more attention to UN films.

The media division annually spends about \$600,000 on documentaries, including paying a production staff of seven, Whitehouse said. The United Nations recoups some money through fees charged for broadcasting rights. The United Nations has cut the filmmaking budget extensively over the last few years, Younes said.

Many of the early films were highly artistic. In the 1958 *Overture*, the Vienna Philharmonic plays Beethoven's *Egmont Overture* in the background amid pictures of the aftermath of war, hunger and poverty. Toward the end, the scenes become more hopeful — clean water runs, villagers learn to read and write. And finally, with a rousing crescendo, the camera beams on the glittering United Nations headquarters — a beacon in the dark New York City sky.

*Overture*, nominated for an Oscar, was made by director Thorold Dickinson. Others involved in UN films include

Hersey, who wrote the script for a 1957 film about Hungarian refugees, *Out*, and Rossellini, who shot footage in the Amazon and Africa for a 1979 film entitled *People: A Matter of Balance*.

"There are quite a few formidable filmmakers who have been drawn to the United Nations and what it stands for," said Joshua Siegel, assistant film and video curator at New York's Museum of Modern Art, which organized a retrospective of UN films two years ago in commemoration of the world body's 50th anniversary. "The United Nations has given a lot of filmmakers the opportunity to make a lot of films that otherwise would never be made," he said.

Well-known personalities, such as Alistair Cooke and the late David Niven, have narrated UN films. Some films feature footage of entertainers who have participated in UN activities, such as the late Audrey Hepburn and Danny Kaye.

There are more than 100 UN films and videos in active distribution. Many of the older ones shot on 16mm film are out of circulation. (AP)

# Beersheba Sinfonietta promises dynamic season

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba has regular ups and downs in its seasons. Some concerts can be very exciting, as the one that opened the previous season, for example, while on other occasions the orchestra can be much less inspiring. All in all, music director Uri Mayer manages to maintain a solid musical ensemble in the south of Israel which brings

the joys of classical music to locales such as Arad, Dimona, Kiryat Gat and Ashkelon and to its very loyal audience in Beersheba while performing in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem as well.

The coming Sinfonietta season, starting September 6, is the most dynamic the orchestra has presented in several years, artists-wise.

The season opens with ravishing pianist Christina Ortiz playing Beethoven's "Emperor"

piano concerto and will feature conductors Yoav Talmi, Eri Klass and Arnold Katz, as well as soloists such as trumpet player Markus Stockhausen, violinist Pierre Amoyal, and young, up-and-coming Israeli soloist as Aviram Reichart, Yevgeni Yehudin and Karen Tanenbaum in one major series of 10 classical music concerts and six light classics focusing on the music of Mozart, Dvorak, Handel, Haydn, Strauss and

Tchaikovsky. The Sinfonietta's popular opera series features four mini-concert versions of operas, including *Eugene Onegin* and *Don Giovanni* without chorus, and with two or three singers performing the highlights of each opera.

Among the soloists in this upcoming series are Sharon Rostorf, Larisa Tatuiev, Susanna Poretzky, Yevgeny Shapovalov, Felix Livshitz, Vladimir Braun,

Dan Etinger and Yuri Kissin. The major highlights of the coming season are Yoram Lesh's *Fanfare* and *Whispers* for trumpet and orchestra, the Copland clarinet concerto, Cimarosa's *Il maestro di Capella* and others.

An altogether balanced season with some brilliant soloists and conductors who just might inspire the orchestra to become more than a solid ensemble and play music more vivaciously.

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CRITIC'S CHOICE

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN



Two troubled couples become intertwined in 'Afterglow.'

\*\*\*\*\* AFTERGLOW — Alan Rudolph's complicated prism of a film focuses on a pair of troubled couples (Julie Christie and Nick Nolte, Lara Flynn Boyle and Jonny Lee Miller) caught at different, desperate stages in their lives and loves. Not only does the director clearly empathize in varying but intense degrees with at least three of the main characters and their contradictory desires, he asks of us that we do the same. To a great extent he succeeds, largely because of his wonderful actors, but also because he shows an unusual willingness to let a scene hover between apparently irreconcilable tones (gloom and silliness, say) and between traditionally incompatible forms (soap opera and slapstick). As in all of his best work, Rudolph piles on so much powerful sentiment, the result is incredibly — almost tooth-achingly — rich, only more complex and alive for its overflow of unspoken emotion. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children.)

commercial movies in the '60s their low-tech psychedelic look and feel. With Elizabeth Hurley, Robert Wagner and Michael York. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.)

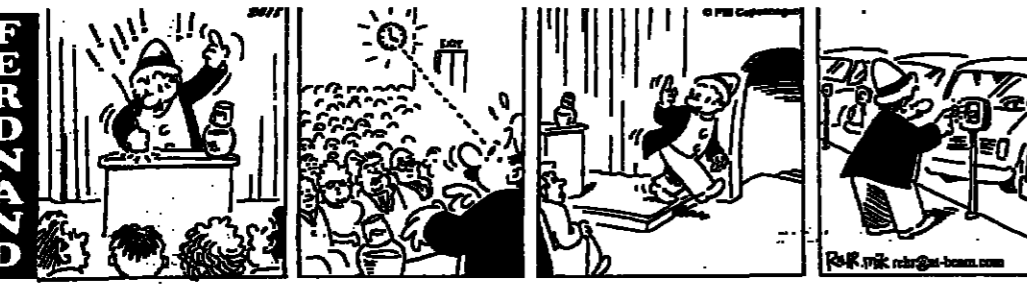
\*\*\*\*\* DONNIE BRASCO — Director Mike Newell's film is based on the true story of an FBI agent (Johnny Depp) who goes undercover and infiltrates a powerful crime family by forging a deep and difficult-to-sever bond with one of its neediest members (Al Pacino). It is among the saddest mafia movies ever made, both in terms of the tale it tells and as a rueful acknowledgment of its belated place in American cinema history. An Englishman whose resume consists mainly of cheerful entertainments like 'Four Weddings and a Funeral,' Newell approaches the usual violent subject matter on his own terms (psychology takes precedence over action) and with an unflinching eye for the down-and-out, day-to-day workings of an organized crime operation. He's a sensitive outsider, unimpressed by the bluster and flash of the mobsters per se, but genuinely interested in the fate of a few individuals caught in the bloody swirl. Both Pacino and Depp give performances of tremendous longing and understatement, concentrating most of their feeling in the eyes. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

\*\*\* AUSTIN POWERS: INTERNATIONAL MAN OF MYSTERY — A vehicle for star and scriptwriter Mike Myers, this big silly soap of a spoof lampoons and honors at one and the same time James Bond, Richard Lester's Beatles movies, and the outlandish garish mod-culture of late '60s London. Fashion photographer by day, spy by night, Powers is a party-loving ladies' man who is frozen cryogenically in 1967 and thawed out some 30 years later so that he might do battle with his nemesis, Dr. Evil (also played by Myers) who has recently been defrosted as well and now plans to blow up the world. What makes the film so funny in its light, TV-comedy sketch way is that both Myers and director Jay Roach clearly feel affection for the movies and music of the hero's heyday, and as they set out to reconstruct the unmitigated tackiness of the era, as embodied by Austin, a surprising witfulness takes hold. The most memorable bits here aren't verbal jokes but visual gags — little nostalgic homages to the dated camera work and editing techniques that gave

TV schedule table with columns for Channel 1, Middle East TV, Educational TV, Channel 1, and Cable. Lists various programs like '630 News Flash', '10:30 The Intrepid', '11:00 A Matter of Time', etc.

MOVIE CHANNEL (M) schedule table listing movies such as '11:30 Search for Justice (1996)', '12:05 Seeing Stars', '12:55 A Holiday to Remember (1995)', etc.

PRIME TIME TV schedule table with columns for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. Lists programs like 'Autobahn', 'News', 'Quiz of the Century', etc.



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS: 1 Bad breath, Lois has it, strangely enough (9). 6 One expected to stand on his own two feet (5). 9 Inspirational opening (7). 10 Came round with Donald, doing very good turn in Greece (9). 11 Anxiety for the firm (7). 12 Does it cost him nothing when in town? (7). 13 Without which elopers could marry (8,7). 18 Port was rebuilt after 1945 (7). 20 Composer overturned cup whilst at home in the Channel Islands (7). 22 Contradiction of rejection, one quietly leaves (9). 23 O' bother, confounded lute (7). 24 Saying mother has about eleven (5). 25 The colour of princely blood? (5,4). DOWN: 1 Disadvantage of course (8). 2 His intake is sound (8). 3 Now and again—and again (8). 4 Tweed jumper perhaps (6). 5 Peculiar remedy (8). 6 Stick bond with glue coming unstuck (8). 7 Victoria possibly goes round in Parisian style at the full assembly (6). 8 Party chief's territory (6). 14 Clean sweeper (3,5). 15 Until we meet again in France (2,6). 16 Back number (8). 17 Laborious works on cockney house (8). 18 River mad I removed from the platform (6). 19 From Tarsus, sexagenarian went to coastal area (6). 20 Not worth considering the said fowls (6). 21 Grain formerly found in California (6).

SOLUTIONS section containing crossword puzzle grids and their corresponding answers.

QUICK CROSSWORD section with a crossword grid and a list of clues for a quick puzzle.

ARABIC PROGRAMS and HEBREW PROGRAMS schedule table listing shows like '18:30 Family Matters', '18:00 News', '18:30 Jukebox', etc.

CHILDREN (C) and EUROSPORT schedule table listing children's programs and sports events like '8:30 Cartoon', '8:30 Dinosaur', etc.

MOVIES schedule table listing film screenings such as '11:30 a.m. - Austin Powers 7:30, 10 - Batman & Robin 11:30 a.m., 4:45 - Bean 11:30 a.m., 5:20', etc.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or a small advertisement.

# Kahalani evidence extends Ben-Ari remand

A High Court justice extended Zvi Ben-Ari's detention another 15 days yesterday after prosecutors said they had evidence from Russia linking him to crimes abroad.

Justice Yaacov Kedmi was shown classified material obtained by Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, who has been visiting Russia and Ukraine since last week.

Ben-Ari's attorney, Yoram Sheftel, whose former client John Demjanjuk was acquitted by the High Court after being convicted of war crimes, was critical of Kahalani's involvement in Ben-Ari's case.

"A minister who involves himself in seeking evidence in a police investigation turns the probe into a political investigation, which means that Ben-Ari

should be released right now," Sheftel argued.

Sheftel asserted that the last time that a minister got involved in an investigation was then-prime minister Shimon Peres who brought the Trawniki Card to Israel from the former Soviet Union in the 1980s, to be used as evidence against Demjanjuk.

The card helped prosecutors get Demjanjuk convicted of being a death camp guard in Treblinka Death Camp in Poland during World War II. But Demjanjuk was acquitted in 1993 by the Supreme Court, who said he may have been a victim of mistaken identity.

Ben-Ari, jailed since May, has already spent 107 days behind bars, although he hasn't been indicted. He is suspected of bank fraud, abetting murder, and trying to influence politicians. (Iim)



Zvi Ben-Ari (center) sits in the High Court yesterday flanked by police guards, as Justice Yaacov Kedmi extends his detention by another 15 days. (Isaac Harari)

## Kahalani in Ukraine fender bender

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani was lightly injured yesterday in a traffic accident in the Ukraine capital of Kiev.

His spokesman, Rafi Levy, said the car carrying Kahalani and Ukraine's deputy interior minister collided with other vehicles in the

convoy, as Kahalani was headed to a meeting with the Ukrainian interior minister.

Kahalani was lightly scratched and didn't require any medical attention, Levy said.

"The Ukrainians were so embarrassed by the accident that they couldn't stop apologizing," Levy said.

### WEATHER

| City       | Temp  | Forecast      |
|------------|-------|---------------|
| Haifa      | 24-30 | partly cloudy |
| Tiberias   | 23-28 | partly cloudy |
| Afula      | 20-32 | partly cloudy |
| Samaria    | 19-25 | partly cloudy |
| Tel Aviv   | 25-29 | partly cloudy |
| Jerusalem  | 19-27 | partly cloudy |
| Beer Sheva | 20-31 | partly cloudy |
| Dead Sea   | 20-30 | clear         |
| Eilat      | 25-32 | clear         |

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Relatively low temperatures for the season.

| City         | Temp | Forecast      |
|--------------|------|---------------|
| Amsterdam    | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Berlin       | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Buenos Aires | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Calcutta     | 27   | partly cloudy |
| Chicago      | 13   | partly cloudy |
| Colombo      | 27   | partly cloudy |
| Frankfurt    | 17   | partly cloudy |
| Geneva       | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Helsinki     | 16   | partly cloudy |
| Hong Kong    | 26   | partly cloudy |
| Jakarta      | 26   | partly cloudy |
| London       | 15   | partly cloudy |
| Los Angeles  | 23   | partly cloudy |
| Madrid       | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Mexico       | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Moscow       | 15   | partly cloudy |
| New York     | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Peking       | 21   | partly cloudy |
| Rome         | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Sydney       | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Tokyo        | 23   | partly cloudy |
| Vancouver    | 18   | partly cloudy |
| Zurich       | 17   | partly cloudy |

# Mazal Tov! Happy Birthday! Thank You! Love You!

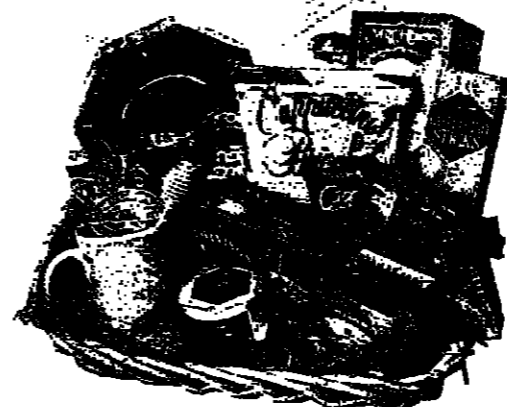
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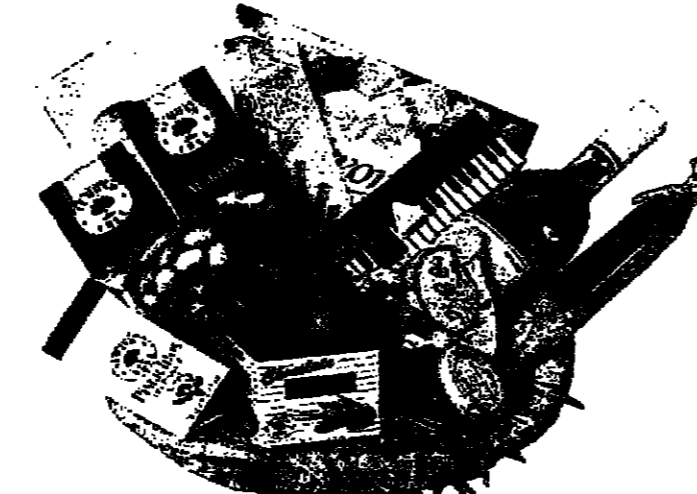
**Happy Birthday!**  
Designed to make anyone celebrate. Champagne, assorted chocolates, candies, cookies, nut treats and snacks, birthday mug & cake with candles. (Champagne replaceable with a birthday bear for a child, please state).



**Time for Tea - or Coffee**  
Overflowing with a selection of gourmet flavored coffee, herbal and English tea, honey, cappuccino, Turkish coffee, nut cookies, hot cocoa, a sprinkling of chocolates and mugs for 2.



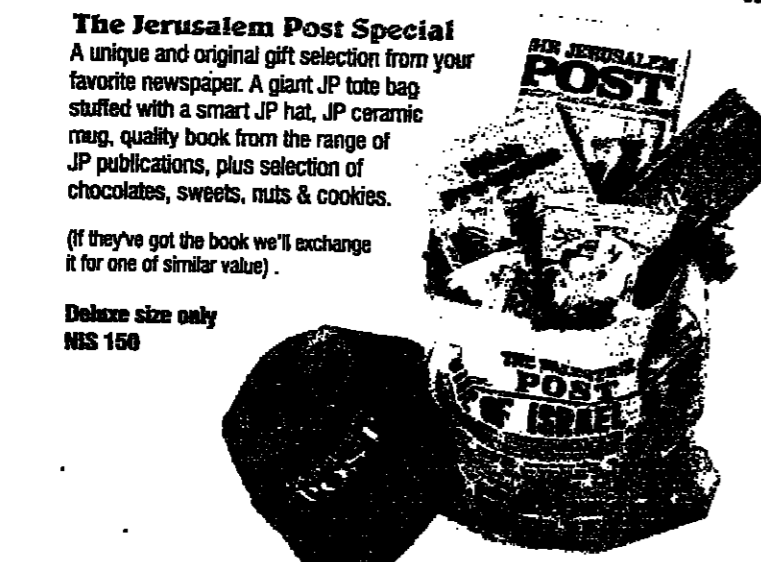
**Home and Style**  
A selection of gourmet flavored olive oil, vinegar, a combination of special spices and pasta, choice pasta, a pasta fork and fine wine.



**The Surprise**  
A gift basket suitable for any occasion. Brimming over with exquisite chocolates, sweets, different nut treats, dried fruit, cookies, honey, scented candles, candies, chocolate cappuccino sticks and fine wine.



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## Winning cards and numbers

In yesterday's first daily Chance drawing (277/97), the winning cards were the 10 of spades, the 10 of hearts, the 10 of diamonds and the 9 of clubs. In the second drawing (278/97) the winning cards were the 8 of spades, the 7 of hearts, the ace of diamonds and 9 of clubs. In yesterday's weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 2, 7, 26, 36, 37, 38 and the supplementary number was 12.

## Search for missing soldier

Police conducted searches yesterday in the area of Kochav Ya'ir, the hometown of soldier Guy Hever who has been missing for 10 days. The searches, which turned up no clues, were launched on the basis of hopes that Hever may be headed to the area. (Iim)

## Mevasseret squatters released on bail

The Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday released 14 of the 15 squatters who had been arrested during their eviction from the Mevasseret Zion absorption center on Monday. They were released on NIS 20,000 bail each.

One squatter remains in custody on suspicion of drug possession, and will appear in court for a remand hearing tomorrow.

Judge Carmi Mosek refused a police request to remand four of the squatters on suspicion of weapons possession and of inciting the others to resist eviction. Police said the four had prepared firebombs, but the judge noted that no firebombs were found.

Mosek retracted an earlier comment that the eviction may not have been legal because 30 days had passed since the squatters had occupied the apartments. After 30 days, a court order is required for eviction, and none was obtained. He noted later, however, that since the Jewish Agency had filed its complaint with

in 30 days of the break-in, the police action was legal.

Since the eviction, several dozen policemen have been guarding the absorption center to prevent the squatters' reentry. The Jewish Agency has also hired private guards to remain in the flats.

Dozens of those evicted gathered at the Mevasseret local council offices yesterday to discuss their next moves. Several said they were considering breaking into the absorption center again, as they had nowhere else to sleep.

Labor MK Ophir Pines wrote to Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush yesterday, asking that his ministry find living solutions for those who had been evicted, even if only in a hotel, so that children would have a place to return to after school.

Housing Ministry spokesman Moshe Eilat replied that solutions had been found for some of the families, and that 28 others that were eligible for rent subsidies had been offered them. (Iim)

## Shahak still studying jail riot findings

By LIAT COLLINS and film

Chief-of-General Staff Amnon Lipkin Shahak yesterday told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that although he was not done studying the report on the Military Prison 6 uprising, he felt conclusions should be drawn regarding the fact that light offenders were imprisoned together with soldiers convicted of serious crimes.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid called on the IDF to stick to the agreement signed with the prisoners that helped bring a peaceful end to the Aug. 11 rebellion.

Sarid said that while it was infuriating to make deals with criminals, and awkward to have to carry out what was promised, the army

had to keep its word to maintain credibility.

Other MKs echoed the view. Yisrael Ba'alya whip MK Roman Bronfman said he planned to meet the 13 of the rebellion's leaders when he visits the prison today. Four other ringleaders were already moved to Prison 4.

State Prosecutor Edna Arbel met yesterday with the IDF's chief prosecutor, Brig. Gen. Uri Shoham, to discuss the validity of the agreement reached with the prisoners. They postponed drawing any conclusions pending further investigation of the rebellion.

Some officials, notably the IDF's manpower head, Gen. Gideon Sheffer, are pressing the prosecutor's office not to honor the accord because it was drawn up under duress.

## Guidelines to be set for school on-line services

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The increasing use of computers in the schools has led the Education Ministry to set up a panel to establish ethical principles and guidelines for use of the Internet and data bases in the schools.

According to a ministry spokesman, the panel will be headed by a judge. It will deal with such matters as privacy, protection of data, and exposure to racist or pornographic Web sites, according to Yaffa Vigodsky, director of the ministry's Science and Technology Administration. "The formulation and publication of a code of ethics will give pupils the tools for more critical and intelligent use of the unlimited information available on the various lines of communication," she explained.